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JANUARY TO JUNE 1882.

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PART IV.

Acts of the Governor General's Council assented to by the Governor General.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

[First Publication.]

The following Act of the Governor General of India in Council received the assent of His Excellency the Governor General on the 6th January, 1882, and is hereby promulgated for general information:—

ACT NO. I OF 1882.

THE INLAND EMIGRATION ACT,
1882.

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An Act to amend the law relating to Emigration to the Labour-districts of Bengal and Assam.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the law relating to the emigration of natives of India to the districts of Chittagong, the Chittagong Hill Tracts, Lakhimpur, Sibsagar, Nangong, Darrang, Kamrup, Goalpara, Khasi Hills, Kachar and Silhat; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

CHAPTER I.

PRELIMINARY.

1. This Act may be called "The Inland Emigration Act, 1882."
Short title.
- It extends to the territories respectively administered by the Lieutenant-Governors of Bengal and the North-Western Provinces and the Chief Commissioners of Oudh and Assam:
Local extent.
- And it shall come into force at once.
Commencement.
2. Bengal Act No. VII of 1873 (to amend the law relating to the emigration of labourers to the districts of Assam, Cachar and Silhat and to regulate labour and service), Bengal Act No. III of 1878 (to extend the provisions of Bengal Act VII of 1873 to the district of Chittagong and to the Chittagong Hill Tracts) and Regulation No. IV of 1877 (regulation for extending to the Chief Commissioner of Assam, Chapter 13 of Bengal Act VII of 1873) are hereby repealed.
Repeal of enactments.
- All contracts entered into, rules and appointments made, orders and notices published and licenses granted under the No. VII of 1873, or any of the Acts or Regulations repealed, and now in force, shall be deemed respectively entered into, made or granted under this Act.

3. In this Act, unless there is something to the contrary, the expression "labour-districts" shall mean the districts of Lakhimpur, Sibsagar, Nangong, Kamrup, Goalpara, Khasi Hills, Kachar and Silhat.

and the expression "a labour-district" means any one of such districts:

"Magistrate" means a Magistrate of a district, Sub-divisional Magistrate, and any other person appointed, by name or by virtue of his office, by the Local Government to perform the functions of a Magistrate under this Act:

"Superintendent," "Registering officer," "Inspector" and "Assistant Inspector" mean respectively a Superintendent of Emigration, a Registering officer, an Inspector of Labourers and an Assistant Inspector of Labourers appointed under this Act:

"Contractor," "sub-contractor," "recruiter" and "local agent" mean respectively a contractor, a sub-contractor, a recruiter and a local agent licensed under this Act:

"Labour-contract" means a contract entered into in accordance with the provisions of this Act to labour for hire in a labour-district, otherwise than as a domestic servant:

"Labourer" means any person bound by a contract under the provisions of the said Bengal Act No. VII of 1873 or by a labour-contract under the provisions of this Act. And it also includes any person registered under section thirty-two or section sixty-six as a labourer:

"Estate" means the land upon which any labourers or more than fifty other persons have been engaged to labour:

"Employer" means the chief person for the time being in charge of any estate upon which labourers or more than fifty other persons are employed:

"Emigrate" denotes the departure of any native of India of the age of sixteen years or upwards (other than a native of a labour-district) from any part of the territories administered by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, not being a labour-district, or from the territories respectively administered by the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces and the Chief Commissioner of Oudh, for the purpose of labouring for hire in a labour-district otherwise than as a domestic servant:

"Dependent" means any woman (not being a labourer), any child, and any aged or incapacitated relative or friend accompanying any labourer with the consent of a contractor, sub-contractor, recruiter, local agent or garden-sardar:

"Vessel" includes anything made for the conveyance by water of human beings or property:

"Master" means the person for the time being in charge of a vessel:

"Writing" and "written" include "printing" and "lithography."

And all words defined in the Indian Contract Act, 1872, and used in this Act, shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them by that Act.

4. The Local Government may, with the sanction of the General in Council, by notification in the local Gazette, declare that any labour-district in the territories administered by such Government shall, from a day specified in such notification, cease to be subject to all the provisions of this Act; and from that day such labour-district shall cease to be subject to the provisions of this Act or to the provisions specified, as the case may be.

5. The Local Government may, with the sanction of the General in Council, by notification in the local Gazette, prohibit, from a day specified in such notification, all natives of India or any specified class of such natives, from emigrating from the whole or any specified part of the territories under its administration, to any labour-district or to any specified portion of any such district.

The Local Government may with the like sanction in like manner vary or cancel any such notification.

6. The publication of a notification under section four or section five shall not affect any act done, offence committed or proceedings commenced before such publication.

7. Save as provided by section five, nothing in this Act shall be deemed to prohibit any native of India from emigrating to, or entering into a contract to labour in, a labour-district otherwise than under the provisions of this Act.

8. The Local Government may appoint, either by name or by virtue of their office, so many persons as it thinks necessary to be Superintendents of Emigration, Registering officers, Embarkation Agents, Debarkation Agents, Inspectors of Labourers, Assistant Inspectors of Labourers and Medical Inspectors under this Act respectively, and, with respect to any such officer, may, subject to the control of the Governor General in Council, declare the local area situate in the territories subject to its administration within which he shall exercise the powers and perform the duties conferred and imposed upon him by this Act or any rule made hereunder.

The Local Government may suspend or remove any persons whom it so appoints.

Every person so appointed shall be deemed a public servant within the meaning of the Indian Penal Code.

CHAPTER II.
LABOUR-CONTRACTS GENERALLY.

9. Every labour-contract shall be in writing, and shall be executed in duplicate on substantial paper. Every such contract shall specify—

(a) the names of the labourer and his employer;

(b) the term for which the labourer is to labour;

his monthly wages in money and the price at which rice is to be supplied to him; the labour-district in which, and, if the labourer so request, the estate on which, he is to labour.

Every such contract shall be in the form prescribed in the schedule hereto annexed.

No such contract shall be made for a term exceeding five years, commencing from the date of execution; or shall stipulate for a less rate of daily wages for a completed daily task required in accordance with the provisions of this Act than five rupees in the case of a man and four rupees in the case of a woman for the first three years of the term of the contract, or six rupees in the case of a man and five rupees in the case of a woman for the fourth and fifth years of such term.

No contract made in contravention of, or not in accordance with, the provisions of this section shall be enforceable under this Act as a labour-contract against the labourer entering into it.

10. Unless the labour-contract specifies the particular estate on which the

If contract does not specify estate, labourer to be deemed to have contracted to labour on any estate in charge of employer and situate in labour-district.

labourer is to labour, the labourer shall be deemed to have contracted to labour on any estate in charge of the employer for whom he has contracted to labour, and situate in the labour-district specified in the contract:

Provided that no labourer shall, without his own consent, be separated from his dependents (if any) or from any other labourer who is the wife, husband, son or daughter of such labourer,

11. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary

Persons of sixteen years of age may contract to emigrate. in the Indian Contract Act, 1872, it shall be lawful for any person of the age of sixteen years or upwards to enter into a labour-contract.

CHAPTER III.

RECRUITING BY CONTRACTORS, SUB-CONTRACTORS AND RECRUITERS.

A.—Contractors and Sub-contractors.

12. Any Superintendent specially empowered in this behalf by the Local Government may grant to such persons as he thinks fit licenses

Superintendent may license contractors. to be contractors within the whole or any part of the local area for which such Superintendent has been appointed. He may also, on the application

Superintendent may license sub-contractors. of any contractor, grant to such persons as he thinks fit licenses to be sub-contractors on behalf of such contractor, within the whole or any part of the local area for which such contractor is licensed.

13. Every license to a contractor or sub-con-

Form of, and fee for, contractor's and sub-contractor's licenses. tractor shall be in such form, and subject to the payment of such fee, not exceeding, in the case of a contractor, one hundred rupees, and in the case of a sub-contractor, fifty rupees, as the Local Government may by rule prescribe.

14. No such license shall be granted for a longer

Period for which contractor's and sub-contractor's license to remain in force. period than one year from the date thereof, and, if the licensee fails to comply with any of the provisions of this Act or the rules made hereunder, or is guilty of any other misconduct, any such license may at any time be cancelled by the Superintendent who granted the same.

A contractor or sub-contractor may, within one month from the date of any order of a Superintendent cancelling his license, appeal against such order to the Local Government.

The order of the Local Government on such appeal shall be final.

15. Every contractor, in addition to the special

Duties of contractors. duties herein assigned to him, shall afford such information to the Superintendent and furnish him with such returns and reports as he may, subject to any rules which may be framed by the Local Government in this behalf, require.

16. A sub-contractor may be licensed to act on

Sub-contractor may be licensed to represent more than one contractor. behalf of more than one contractor: Provided that he obtains a separate license in the case of each contractor for whom he desires to act.

17. A contractor or sub-contractor may act as a

Contractor or sub-contractor may act as recruiter. recruiter, and shall, when so acting, be subject to all the provisions hereinafter contained relating to recruiters.

18. Every contractor shall be liable for the acts

Liability of contractors for sub-contractors' and recruiters' acts and defaults. and defaults as a sub-contractor or recruiter of any person licensed to be a sub-contractor or recruiter on his behalf, and shall be bound to make good all payments which, under this Act or any rule made hereunder, any such person is ordered to make.

The Superintendent may cancel the license of any contractor whenever the license of any person so licensed on his behalf is liable to be cancelled under this Act.

Nothing in this section shall be deemed to render a contractor criminally liable for any act or default on the part of any person licensed to be a sub-contractor or recruiter on his behalf.

19. Every contractor shall establish and main-

Contractor to establish depôts. tain, at such places as the Local Government may direct, suitable depôts for the reception and lodging, previous to their despatch to the labour-districts, of labourers engaged by him or by sub-contractors or recruiters licensed to act on his behalf, and shall provide at his own expense all necessary food, clothing and medical treatment for such labourers during their stay at such depôts.

20. No such depôt shall be used for the recep-

Inspection and supervision of depôts. tion and lodging of labourers until it has been inspected and approved of by the Superintendent and the Medical Inspector. Every such depôt shall be under the supervision of the Superintendent, the Magistrate of the district or such other officer as

the Local Government may appoint in this behalf, and shall be open at all times to inspection by the Superintendent, the Magistrate of the district or such officer, and by the Medical Inspector.

Whenever the Superintendent considers that any such dépôt is unhealthy, or has become unsuitable for the purpose for which it was established, he may by order in writing prohibit the using of such dépôt for the reception and lodging of labourers.

21. In addition to the dépôts hereinbefore provided for, the Local Government may establish a separate hospital-dépôt for the reception of labourers suffering from any dangerously infectious or contagious disease.

22. Whenever any such hospital-dépôt is established by any Local Government, such Government may require any contractor having a dépôt in the neighbourhood of such hospital-dépôt to contribute to the expense of the establishment and maintenance of such hospital-dépôt such reasonable sum as it may direct. Such sum may be recovered as an arrear of land-revenue due from any contractor so required.

Every hospital-dépôt so established shall be under the charge of a medical officer appointed by the Local Government. Any Medical Inspector may direct the transfer of any labourer from a dépôt established within the local limits of his jurisdiction to a hospital-dépôt established within such local limits.

B.—Recruiters.

23. Any Superintendent empowered in this behalf by the Local Government may, on the application of any contractor or of any sub-contractor acting on behalf of a contractor, grant to such persons as he thinks fit licenses to be recruiters on behalf of such contractor within the whole or any specified part of the local area for which such contractor has been licensed.

24. Every license to a recruiter shall be in such form and subject to the payment of such fee, not exceeding sixteen rupees, as the Local Government may by rule prescribe.

25. No such license shall be granted for a longer period than one year from the date thereof; and if the licensee fails to comply with any of the provisions of this Act or the rules made hereunder, or is guilty of any other misconduct, any such license may be cancelled by the Superintendent who granted the same.

26. Every recruiter shall hold a certificate in writing authorizing him to act as such and signed by the contractor or sub-contractor on whose application he was licensed.

27. No recruiter shall in any local area engage or attempt to engage any person as a labourer unless such recruiter's license bears the countersignature of a Magistrate having jurisdiction throughout such local area.

No such Magistrate shall countersign a recruiter's license unless and until he has satisfied himself by such enquiry as he thinks fit that the licensee is not by character or from any other cause unfitted to be a recruiter under this Act, that he holds the certificate mentioned in section twenty-six, and that sufficient and proper accommodation has been provided in a suitable place and is available for such labourers, or persons intending to become labourers, as may be collected by such recruiter pending their removal to a dépôt.

28. Every Magistrate shall have, for the supervision, inspection and regulation of the place situated within the local limits of his jurisdiction where such accommodation is provided, the same powers as are by this Act conferred on the Superintendent in respect of dépôts.

Any Magistrate of a district or division of a district may authorize any Magistrate subordinate to him, or any officer of police above the rank of sub-inspector, to visit and inspect such place at any time; and all recruiters or other persons in charge of such place shall afford to subordinate Magistrates and officers of police so authorized every facility for making such visits and inspections.

29. If any Magistrate who has countersigned a recruiter's license afterwards finds reason to think that the licensee is by character or from any other cause unfitted to be a recruiter under this Act, or that the accommodation provided under section twenty-seven has become insufficient or improper or has ceased to be available, or that the place in which it is provided has become unsuitable, he may require the licensee to produce his license and may cancel his countersignature thereon, or he may impound the license and send it for cancellation to the Superintendent who granted the same.

Every Magistrate refusing to countersign a recruiter's license or cancelling his countersignature thereon shall at once report such refusal or cancellation and the grounds thereof to the Superintendent who granted such license.

C.—Procedure before Arrival at Dépôt.

30. Every recruiter who desires to engage any person as a labourer shall appear with such person before such medical officer as the Local Government may appoint to examine such persons within the local limits of the jurisdiction of the Magistrate by whom such recruiter's license was countersigned, or, if no such officer has been appointed, before such medical officer as the Registering officer, before whom such person is taken for registration as hereinafter provided, may direct.

The medical officer shall thereupon examine such person, and shall, if satisfied that he is in a fit state of health and able in point of physical condition to proceed to the labour-district in which he intends to labour, give him a certificate to that effect.

31. Every person who obtains a certificate under section thirty, together with any persons about to proceed to a labour-district as his dependents, shall thereupon be brought by the recruiter before the

Registering officer having jurisdiction within the local area for which such recruiter is licensed. The recruiter shall at the same time produce and show his license to such Registering officer.

32. The Registering officer shall thereupon inspect the certificate given under section thirty, and the license of the recruiter, and, if he finds that such certificate has been duly given and that the recruiter is duly licensed, shall then examine such person, with reference to his intended labour-contract, and explain the same to him.

If it appears that such person is competent to enter into such contract, and understands the same as regards the locality, period and nature of the service, and the rate of wages and the price at which rice is to be supplied to him, that the terms thereof are in accordance with law, that he has not been induced to agree to enter thereinto by any coercion, undue influence, fraud, misrepresentation or mistake, and that he is willing to fulfil the same, the Registering officer shall register in a book to be kept for the purpose such particulars regarding him and the persons (if any) whom he wishes to have registered as his dependents as the Local Government may by rule prescribe; and the labourer and his dependents (if any) shall thereupon be deemed to be registered under this Act.

33. The Registering officer shall furnish to the person so registered a certified copy of such particulars written on substantial paper.

34. Every officer registering any person under section thirty-two shall forthwith forward a certified copy of such particulars and the original certificate of the medical officer regarding him to the Superintendent having jurisdiction over the depôt to which such person is to proceed.

35. For every such person produced before a Registering officer for the purpose of being registered as a labourer the recruiter shall pay to the officer such fee not exceeding one rupee as the Local Government may by rule direct.

36. No recruiter shall remove or attempt to remove any person to a depôt, or induce or attempt to induce him to go to a depôt, or to leave the local limits of the jurisdiction of the Registering officer before whom such person ought to be brought under section thirty-one, or aid or attempt to aid him in going to a depôt, or leaving any such local limits, unless and until such person has been registered under section thirty-two.

37. Every labourer shall, after he has been registered under section thirty-two, be conveyed with all convenient despatch by the recruiter by whom he has been engaged to the depôt established by the contractor on whose behalf such recruiter has been licensed.

All labourers shall, while proceeding to the depôt, be accompanied throughout the journey either by the recruiter himself, or by a competent person deputed by him with the approval of the Registering officer by whom such labourers have been registered. The Registering officer shall give to the person so deputed a certificate under his signature, stating that he has been deputed for the journey to the depôt.

38. Every recruiter or person deputed by him as aforesaid shall, throughout the journey to the depôt, provide such labourer and his dependents (if any) with proper and sufficient food and lodging.

D.—Procedure at Contractors' Depôts.

39. Within twenty-four hours after a labourer arrives at a depôt, the contractor by whom such depôt is maintained, or the person in charge thereof, shall give to the Superintendent, within the local limits of whose jurisdiction such depôt is situate, a notice in writing of such arrival, which notice shall be in such form, and shall contain such particulars, as the Local Government may by rule prescribe.

40. The Medical Inspector shall, as soon as may be after the labourer arrives at the depôt, examine such labourer and his dependents (if any) to ascertain that they are in a fit state of health to undertake the journey to the labour-district to which they intend to proceed.

The Medical Inspector shall give a certificate to the Superintendent stating whether he is or is not satisfied of the fitness of the labourer and his dependents (if any) to undertake such journey.

41. If the Medical Inspector gives a certificate of fitness under section forty with respect to any labourer, and in the opinion of the Superintendent there is no valid reason why such labourer should not enter into a labour-contract, such labourer and the employer with whom he intends to contract, or the agent of such employer, shall, within thirty days after the arrival of the labourer at the depôt, execute a labour-contract in the presence of the Superintendent.

42. Before the labourer executes such contract, the Superintendent shall personally explain it to him, and shall, after the same has been executed by such labourer and his employer, or the agent of such employer, attest such contract and certify at the foot thereof that he has personally explained the same to the labourer.

An abstract of every such contract shall be entered in a register to be kept by the Superintendent for the purpose; and after such abstract has been so entered, one copy of the contract shall be given to the labourer and the other to his employer or his employer's agent.

Power to cancel contract and order payment of expenses home of labourer in certain cases.

43. In the following cases (namely) :—

(a) where the Medical Inspector, on making the examination required by section forty, or at any subsequent time during the stay at the depôt of any labourer, finds that such labourer is or has become unfit to undertake the journey to the labour-district to which he intends to proceed, and the Superintendent considers that such labourer has not dishonestly represented himself as fit to undertake such journey, or

(b) where the Superintendent finds that any such irregularity has occurred in the recruitment or treatment by the recruiter of any such labourer as makes it just to refuse to permit a labour-contract to be executed or to rescind such contract if executed, or

(c) where the contractor on whose behalf or by whom the labourer has been registered does not within thirty days after the arrival of such labourer at the depôt tender to him a labour-contract for execution under section forty-one, or the employer or his agent refuses or neglects to execute such contract as required by that section,

the Superintendent may cancel the labour-contract executed by such labourer, and in that case, or if no labour-contract has been executed, may order the contractor at once to pay such labourer such reasonable sum as is necessary to enable him to return to the place at which he was registered, and such further sum by way of compensation as the Superintendent thinks reasonable; and may take any other steps he thinks necessary for the conveyance of such labourer to such place.

44. Any labourer who from his state of health is, in the opinion of the Medical Inspector, unfit to undertake such return-journey, shall be entitled to be fed, lodged, clothed and (if necessary) medically treated at the depôt at the expense of the contractor by whom such depôt is maintained, until he is reported by the Medical Inspector to be fit to undertake such return-journey.

If such contractor negligently or wilfully omits to provide food, lodging, clothing or medical treatment for such labourer, the Superintendent may order the contractor at once to pay such reasonable sum as is necessary to provide such food, lodging, clothing or medical treatment.

45. When an order is made under section forty-three with reference to any labourer, any person registered as his dependent, or any labourer being the wife, husband, son or daughter of such labourer, may claim—

(a) to be conveyed at the expense of the contractor with such labourer to the place at which he was registered, and

(b) if such labourer is unable to travel, to be fed, lodged, clothed and (if necessary) medically treated in the depôt at the expense of the contractor until such labourer is able to travel;

and the Superintendent may include such expenses in an order made under section forty-three or section forty-four with respect to such labourer.

46. If, upon the arrival of any labourer at a depôt, it appears that during the journey to the depôt such labourer or any person registered as his dependent has suffered any ill-treatment at the hands of the recruiter or person deputed by him to accompany such labourer, or that such recruiter or such person has failed to provide the labourer or any person registered as his dependent with proper and sufficient food and lodging, the Superintendent may order the contractor by whom such depôt is maintained to pay such labourer a reasonable sum by way of compensation.

47. If the Medical Inspector has reason to think that any person registered as the dependent of a labourer is not in a fit state of health to undertake the journey to the labour-district to which the labourer whose dependent he is intends to proceed, the Medical Inspector shall so certify to the Superintendent to whom notice of the arrival of such labourer was given. The provisions of sections forty-three and forty-four shall thereupon apply to such dependent as if he were a labourer, and the Superintendent may make such orders regarding him as he may make under those sections with regard to a labourer.

48. The labourer to whom such dependent is attached shall thereupon be entitled, if he or she so wishes, and if he or she be the husband, wife, son or daughter of such dependent, to receive from the contractor at whose depôt he or she arrived such reasonable sum as is necessary to enable him or her to return to the place where he or she was registered. If such labourer so return, then any other persons registered as his or her dependents, and any other labourer being the wife, husband, son or daughter of such labourer, shall also be entitled to receive a like sum from such contractor.

49. On failure of the contractor for twenty-four hours to comply with an order of the Superintendent to pay any sum ordered to be paid under section forty-three, section forty-four, section forty-five, section forty-six, section forty-seven or section forty-eight, the Superintendent may pay the same to or on behalf of the labourer or dependent.

Every sum so paid shall be recoverable from the contractor with interest thereon at the rate of twelve per cent. per annum from the date of payment.

No further proof shall be required by any Court in any such case than that the Superintendent gave the contractor an order to pay such sum, and that the contractor for twenty-four hours failed to comply with such order.

50. All labourers despatched from a contractor's depôt to a labour-district shall during their journey be accompanied by a person appointed by such contractor. Such person shall take with him a way-bill in such form and containing such particulars and instructions as the Local Government may prescribe.

He shall also present such way-bill at all such places and to all such officers as may be thereupon indicated: and shall carry out all instructions contained therein for his guidance.

CHAPTER IV.

RECRUITING BY GARDEN-SARDARS AND LOCAL AGENTS.

A.—Garden-sardars.

51. Any employer may grant to any person a certificate authorizing him, within such local area as may be specified in such certificate, to enter into labour-contracts with persons desirous of becoming labourers upon any estate of which such employer is in charge.

Every person to whom such certificate has been granted is hereinafter called a garden-sardar.

If any labourer is granted a certificate under this section, his employment as a garden-sardar shall be deemed to be employment under his labour-contract.

52. Every such certificate shall be in such form and shall contain such particulars as the Local Government of the territories in which it is granted may prescribe in this behalf.

Any employer granting a certificate to a garden-sardar may, before such certificate is accepted and signed as hereinafter provided, specify therein the name of the local agent (if any) to whom such garden-sardar is to report himself for orders, and the time within which he is to return to such employer, and any other instructions for his conduct that he may think proper.

53. Every such certificate shall be accepted and signed by the garden-sardar in the presence of the Inspector or a Magistrate having jurisdiction over the place where the employer granting such certificate resides.

54. Such Inspector or Magistrate shall inquire into the facts stated in such certificate; and upon being satisfied of the truth of the statement shall, unless it appears to him that the person so accepting and signing such certificate is by character or from any other cause unfitted to be a garden-sardar, countersign and date such certificate.

55. On the application of the employer by whom any certificate so countersigned has been granted to a garden-sardar, such Inspector or Magistrate may, without requiring the appearance of the garden-sardar or making the inquiry prescribed by section fifty-four, countersign a fresh certificate to be granted by such employer to such garden-sardar in renewal of any existing certificate.

Every such fresh certificate shall be forwarded by the Inspector or Magistrate countersigning it to the Magistrate of the district in which the garden-sardar to whom it is granted

is employed; and such sardar shall, on receiving notice from such Magistrate, appear before him and accept and sign such fresh certificate in his presence.

56. No certificate granted to a garden-sardar shall come into force unless and until it has been accepted and signed by the garden-sardar and countersigned by the Inspector or Magistrate, and no such certificate shall continue in force for a longer period than one year from the date of its countersignature.

57. Every garden-sardar shall provide sufficient accommodation to be and proper accommodation in a suitable place for such labourers, or persons intending to become labourers, as may be collected by him pending their removal to a labour-district.

The Magistrate of a district or of a division of a district, or a Magistrate subordinate to him, or an officer of police above the rank of sub-inspector authorized by him in this behalf, shall visit and inspect such accommodation; and all garden-sardars or other persons in charge of such places shall afford to such Magistrate, Subordinate Magistrate or officer of police every facility for making such visits and inspections.

In every such place the garden-sardar providing the accommodation shall make such sanitary arrangements as the Local Government may prescribe.

58. Whenever a garden-sardar contravenes any of the provisions of this Act or the rules made hereunder, or is guilty of any other misconduct, any Magistrate, Superintendent or Inspector, within the local limits of whose jurisdiction such garden-sardar is employed, may cancel his certificate.

B.—Local Agents.

59. Any Superintendent authorized in this behalf by the Local Government may, on the application of any employer, grant licenses to persons to be local agents for the purpose of representing such employer within such local area and for such period as such employer may desire: Provided that no contractor shall be licensed as a local agent.

60. A local agent may within such local area represent his employer in all matters connected with the engagement of labourers; and shall furnish such information and make such returns as the Local Government may by rule direct.

61. The Superintendent authorized as aforesaid may, on the application of any employer other than the employer on whose application a local agent has been licensed, make an order in writing permitting such agent to become the local agent of such additional employer within the local area for which he was licensed. The Superintendent making such order shall forthwith send a copy thereof to the Magistrate of the district in

which such agent resides; and such Magistrate shall, on the agent's application, insert in his license the name of such additional employer.

62. Any Superintendent authorized as aforesaid

Local agent may be specially licensed to contract direct with labourers. may, with the consent of all the employers of a local agent, grant a special license to such agent, permitting him to engage on behalf of any employer specified in such special license, but without the intervention of a garden-sardár, persons to be labourers.

Every agent when so engaging persons to be labourers may, if he thinks fit, appear with them for registration before a Registering officer, and require them when so registered to execute a labour-contract, and in such case shall for the purposes of this Act be deemed to be a garden-sardár.

63. When any garden-sardár to whom a certificate has been granted under

Local agent may prosecute garden-sardár. this Act by any employer commits any offence punishable under this Act, any local agent of such employer may prosecute the sardár for such offence.

64. The Magistrate of any district within

On what grounds local agent's license may be cancelled. which a local agent acts as such may by order cancel the license of such local agent if the employer so require, or if it is shown to the satisfaction of such Magistrate that such local agent has—

(a) employed any contractor's recruiter to engage on his behalf persons to be labourers; or

(b) permitted persons engaged as labourers by or on behalf of any contractor to use the accommodation provided for the persons engaged as labourers by any garden-sardár under such local agent's control; or

(c) allowed any garden-sardár under his control to transfer persons engaged as labourers by such sardár to contractors or to their recruiters or to any employer other than the employer by whom such sardár's certificate was granted; or

(d) himself taken over persons engaged as labourers by any garden-sardár with intent to despatch them to any employer other than the employer by whom such sardár's certificate was granted.

An appeal shall lie to the Local Government from any order made under this section, clause (a), (b), (c) or (d). Such appeal must be presented within three months next after the date of the order, and the decision of the Local Government thereon shall be final.

C.—Procedure to be followed by Garden-sardár.

65. Every garden-sardár who desires to engage
Garden-sardár and labourer to appear before Registering officer for registration. any person as a labourer shall appear with such person, together with any persons about to proceed to a labour-district as dependents of such person, before the Registering officer having jurisdiction within the local area specified in the certificate of such sardár.

66. The Registering officer shall thereupon in-

Registration of persons engaged by garden-sardár. spect the certificate of the garden-sardár, and, if he finds that such certificate is in force, shall examine, with reference to the intended labour-contract, the person whom the sardár

so desires to engage and explain the contract to such person.

If it appears that such person is competent to enter into such contract, and understands the nature of the same, as regards the locality, period and nature of the service, and the rate of wages and the price at which rice is to be supplied to him, that the terms thereof are in accordance with law, that he has not been induced to agree to enter therein by any coercion, undue influence, fraud, misrepresentation or mistake, and that he is willing to fulfil the same, the Registering officer shall register in a book to be kept for the purpose such particulars regarding him and his dependents (if any) as the Local Government may by rule prescribe; and the labourer and his dependents (if any) shall thereupon be deemed to be registered under this Act.

67. If it appears to such officer that any such

Medical examination. person, or any dependent of such person, is not in a fit state of health to undertake the journey to the labour-district to which he intends to proceed, the officer may, before registering any such person or dependent, if himself a medical man, medically examine such person or dependent, or, if not himself a medical man, send such person or dependent to a medical man for such examination. If upon such examination such person or dependent is declared unfit to undertake the journey to such place, the officer may refuse to register such person or dependent.

68. For every person appearing before a Regis-

Fee to be paid for every labourer produced for registration. tering officer for the purpose of being registered as a labourer the garden-sardár who appears with him shall pay to the officer such fee not exceeding one rupee as the Local Government may direct.

69. When any person has been registered under

Labour-contract to be executed. section sixty-six as a labourer he shall, within fifteen days from the day on which he was so registered, execute a labour-contract with the employer with whom he intends to contract. Such contract shall be signed in the presence of the Registering officer by such person and, on behalf of the employer, by the garden-sardár who appears with such person before such officer. The officer shall satisfy himself that the contract is in accordance with any instructions specified in the certificate of the garden-sardár. If the officer is so satisfied, he shall, before the labourer signs the contract, personally explain it to him, and shall, after the same has been executed as aforesaid, attest such contract and certify at the foot thereof that he has personally explained the same to the labourer.

An abstract of every such contract shall be entered in a register to be kept for the purpose by the Registering officer, and, of the two copies of the contract, one shall then be given to the labourer and the other to the garden-sardár or the local agent.

If any garden-sardár, without reasonable cause, refuses or neglects to execute a contract with a labourer as required by this section within fifteen days from the day on which he was so registered, the Registering officer may order such sardár to pay to the labourer such reasonable compensation, not exceeding twenty rupees, as such officer thinks fit.

70. If the employer of a garden-sardār has in the instructions specified in the certificate of the sardār directed that all labourers engaged by him shall before registration be examined by a competent medical man and certified by him to be in a fit state of health to undertake the journey to, and labour in, the labour-districts to which they intend to proceed, no Registering officer shall register as a labourer any person appearing before him with such sardār until such certificate from such medical officer as aforesaid has been produced and shown to him.

71. If the employer has in the instructions specified in the certificate of the garden-sardār directed that such examination shall be made by any medical officer in the service of Government, such officer making the examination shall be entitled to receive from the local agent or sardār such a fee not exceeding eight annas for each labourer so examined as the Local Government may fix.

72. Unless and until a person engaged as a labourer has been registered under section sixty-six no garden-sardār shall remove or attempt to remove him to a labour-district, or induce or attempt to induce him to go to a labour-district, or to leave the local area specified in the certificate of such sardār, or aid or attempt to aid him in proceeding to a labour-district, or in leaving any such local area.

73. A garden-sardār shall either himself accompany labourers engaged by him throughout their journey from the place in which the labour-contract was entered into to the labour-district wherein they have contracted to labour, or shall send with them some competent person appointed by him with the approval of the local agent of his employer; or, if his employer has no local agent, with the approval of the officer by whom such labourers were registered.

When the number of labourers (exclusive of dependents) proceeding on their journey to such labour-district is more than twenty, for every twenty labourers so in excess, or for any number of labourers less than twenty so in excess, one additional garden-sardār or person so appointed by him shall accompany the labourers so proceeding.

74. A garden-sardār may, subject to the instructions specified in his certificate, engage any number of persons as labourers; and, subject to the provisions of section seventy-three, any number of labourers may be despatched at the same time to the labour-districts.

75. Any garden-sardār may, with the previous consent in writing of the local agent of the employer by whom his certificate was granted, or, if such employer has no local agent, with the previous consent in writing of such employer, be appointed under section seventy-three as a competent person to accompany labourers other than those engaged by him.

76. Every garden-sardār or person appointed by him as aforesaid who accompanies labourers to the labour-districts shall present to the officer by whom such labourers have been registered a way-bill in such form and containing such particulars and instructions as the Local Government may prescribe. He shall also present such way-bill at all such places and to all such officers as may be thereupon indicated; and shall carry out all instructions contained therein for his guidance.

77. Every garden-sardār or person appointed by him as aforesaid who accompanies labourers to the labour-districts shall provide such labourers and their dependents (if any) with proper and sufficient food and lodging throughout the journey.

78. If it appears to any Magistrate, on the complaint of any such labourer at any place on the journey, that he or any person registered as his dependent has suffered any ill-treatment during the journey at the hands of the garden-sardār or person appointed by him accompanying such labourer, or that such sardār or person has failed to provide such labourer or any of his dependents with proper and sufficient food and lodging, or has wilfully abandoned such labourer or any of his dependents, such Magistrate may either order the sardār or person so appointed to pay to such labourer a reasonable sum by way of compensation, or may cancel the labour-contract entered into by such labourer and order such sardār or person to pay to such labourer such reasonable sum as is necessary to enable him with his dependents (if any) to return to the place at which he was registered.

79. On failure for twenty-four hours by any garden-sardār or person appointed by him as aforesaid to comply with an order under section seventy-eight to pay any sum, the Magistrate may pay the same to or on behalf of such labourer.

Every sum so paid shall be recoverable from the employer by whom the certificate of such garden-sardār was granted, or from the local agent of such employer, with interest thereon at the rate of twelve per centum per annum from the date of payment.

No further proof shall be required by any Court in any such case than that the Magistrate gave such garden-sardār or person an order to pay such sum and that such garden-sardār or person for twenty-four hours failed to comply with such order.

80. Any Magistrate or any Embarkation Agent may, if himself a medical man, examine, and if not himself a medical man, send for examination by a medical man, any labourer or dependent who, while on the journey to the district to which he intends to proceed, appears to such Magistrate or Agent not to be in a fit state of health to proceed thereto.

81. If such labourer or dependent is on such examination declared not to be in a fit state of health to undertake the journey to the labour-district to which he intends to proceed, the Magistrate or Embarkation Agent may order him to be detained at such place as he thinks fit until the labourer or dependent is in a fit state of health to undertake such journey, when he shall either be forwarded to such district or sent back to the place where he was registered, according as the garden-sardár or person appointed by him accompanying such labourer or dependent, or the employer by whom the certificate of such sardár was granted, or his local agent, may direct.

While any labourer or dependent is so detained he shall be entitled to be fed, lodged, clothed and (if necessary) medically treated at the cost of the employer with whom such labourer or the labourer to whom such dependent is attached has contracted to labour.

82. When an order under section eighty-one depends on labourer when to be fed, &c. has been made with reference to any labourer, any person registered as his dependent and any labourer being the wife or husband of such labourer, shall be entitled,

(a) until such labourer is in a fit state of health to undertake such journey, to be fed, lodged, clothed and (if necessary) medically treated at the place where such labourer is detained and at the cost of the employer with whom such labourer has contracted to labour, and,

(b) if such labourer is sent back to the place where he was registered, to be sent back to such place.

When any such order has been made with reference to any dependent, the labourer to whom he is attached shall thereupon, until such dependent is in a fit state of health to undertake the journey to the labour-district, be entitled, if the labourer so wishes, and, if he or she be the husband, wife, son or daughter of such dependent, to be fed, lodged, clothed and (if necessary) medically treated at the place where such dependent is detained and at the cost of the employer with whom such labourer has contracted to labour; and if such dependent is sent back to the place where he was registered, such labourer shall, if he or she so wishes, and if he or she be the husband, wife, son or daughter of such dependent, be sent back to such place.

If such labourer is entitled and claims to be so fed, lodged, clothed and (if necessary) medically treated, or to be so sent back, any person registered as his or her dependent and any other labourer being the wife or husband of such labourer, shall be entitled, as the case may be,

(a) to be fed, lodged, clothed and (if necessary) medically treated at the place where such dependent is detained and at the cost of such employer until such dependent is in a fit state of health to undertake the journey to the labour-district, or

(b) to be sent back to the place where he or she was registered.

83. If the garden-sardár or person appointed by him accompanying any labourer or dependent fails to provide such labourer or dependent with food, lodging, clothing and medical treatment, or to send him back as required by

section eighty-one or section eighty-two, the Magistrate or Embarkation Agent may order such sardár or person to pay such sum as is necessary to provide such food, lodging, clothing and medical treatment, or to defray the cost of the return-journey of such labourer or dependent, as the case may be, to the place where he was registered; and, on failure for twenty-four hours of such sardár or person to comply with such order, he may pay the sum specified in the order to or on behalf of such labourer or dependent.

The provisions of section seventy-nine shall, *mutatis mutandis*, apply to the recovery of sums paid by the Magistrate or Embarkation Agent under this section.

84. If any labourer whose labour-contract has

been executed by a garden-sardár on behalf of his employer is brought to Calcutta on his way to the district in which he has contracted to labour, any person empowered to act as the agent or representative of such employer may require such labourer to appear before the Superintendent for the cancellation of such contract. If such reasonable sum as is necessary to enable such labourer and his dependents (if any) to return to the place at which he was registered be paid to such labourer in his presence, the Superintendent may declare the contract cancelled, and in that case shall make an endorsement to that effect on the labourer's copy of the contract, and attest it with his signature.

85. When the Superintendent declares the labour-contract of any labourer or to be cancelled, any other labourer who is the wife, husband, father, mother, son or daughter of such labourer, and who may have entered into a labour-contract at the same place with the same employer, may claim to have her or his labour-contract cancelled at the same time. On such claim being made, the Superintendent shall declare the labour-contract of the claimant to be cancelled, and shall order the agent or representative of the claimant's employer to pay to the claimant such reasonable sum as is necessary to enable him and his dependents (if any) to return to the place at which he was registered.

On failure for twenty-four hours of the agent or representative to comply with such order, the Superintendent may pay the sum specified in the order to or on behalf of the claimant; and the provisions of section seventy-nine shall, *mutatis mutandis*, apply to the recovery of any sum so paid.

CHAPTER V.

TRANSPORT BY RIVER.

A.—Passenger Vessels.

86. Nothing in this chapter shall apply to the Transport by sea to transport by sea of natives of India to the labour-districts of Chittagong and the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

87. No master shall receive more than twenty passengers being natives of India on board his vessel for the purpose of transporting them to a labour-district unless a license to

carry passengers in such vessel has been granted to him by an Embarkation Agent duly empowered in that behalf by the Local Government.

The Local Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, exempt vessels from the provisions of this section any vessel or class of vessels.

88. The master or owner of any vessel who desires to obtain a license under this Act to carry passengers in such vessel shall make a written application for a license to an Embarkation Agent empowered as aforesaid.

Every such application shall state such particulars respecting the vessel as the Local Government may by rule prescribe.

89. If such Embarkation Agent is of opinion that the vessel is in all respects suitable for carrying passengers being natives of India to a labour-district, he shall give to the master of the vessel a license to carry passengers therein, specifying the number of passengers being natives of India which may be received on board.

90. Such fee, not exceeding sixteen rupees, as the Local Government may with reference to the size of such vessel by rule direct shall be paid for every such license. No such license shall be in force for more than one voyage:

Provided that the Embarkation Agent may, from time to time, with the previous sanction of the Local Government, grant a license to the master of any vessel for any term not exceeding one year, on payment of such fee not exceeding one hundred rupees, and on such conditions, as the Local Government may by rule direct.

91. Any Embarkation Agent may, in accordance with such rules as the Local Government may prescribe in this behalf, direct by order in writing that, on any particular voyage or part of a voyage, any master licensed hereunder shall not receive on board his vessel more than a specified number of passengers being natives of India, which number shall be less than the number specified in the license granted to such master.

92. In computing the number of persons on board of any vessel, two children under the age of ten years shall for the purposes of this Act be reckoned as one person only.

93. Every master to whom a license is granted hereunder shall keep such lists, submit such returns and make such reports in regard to the passengers carried in his vessel as the Local Government may by rule prescribe.

94. Every such master shall have on board his vessel carrying labourers and their dependents such supplies of provisions and clothing, and such medical and other officers, cooks and attendants, as the Local Government may by rule prescribe.

95. No medical officer shall be appointed to any vessel in respect of which a license is granted hereunder unless he holds a license granted by such authority as the Local Government may appoint in that behalf; and any medical officer so licensed shall be forthwith removed from his appointment on the requisition of any officer empowered by the Local Government to make such requisition.

B.—Departure of Passenger Vessels and Procedure during Voyage.

96. Whenever it appears to any Embarkation Agent that the departure of any vessel in respect of which a license is granted hereunder is unduly delayed beyond the date fixed by order of a Superintendent or the Local Government, or notified by advertisement in the public press, for such departure, he may order the master of such vessel to proceed on his voyage at once.

97. No master licensed hereunder shall proceed on a voyage with his vessel carrying labourers until he has received from the Embarkation Agent the way-bills relating to all labourers on board. The Embarkation Agent and the master of the vessel shall together personally ascertain that the number of labourers on board corresponds with the number entered in such way-bills.

The Embarkation Agent shall send a copy of such way-bills to the Magistrate of the labour-district to which such labourers are proceeding.

98. No such master shall cause or permit any labourer finally to leave his vessel at any place other than that named in the way-bill as the destination of such labourer:

Provided that this section shall not be deemed to prevent the master of any vessel from permitting such labourers to disembark at any place or places on the voyage so long as such disembarkation is not intended or known to be likely to be final; nor to prevent the final disembarkation of any such labourers, or the transfer of such labourers with their dependents to any other vessel in case of accident or other unavoidable necessity. Such accident or necessity shall be forthwith reported by the master to the Embarkation Agent by whom he was licensed, and to the nearest Magistrate in the district within which such accident has occurred or necessity has arisen.

99. Every master licensed hereunder shall stop his vessel carrying passengers being natives of India at such places, being places where a Magistrate is stationed, and shall, unless the Magistrate permits him to depart earlier, remain at each such place for such time, not exceeding six hours of daylight, as the Local Government may direct. Such master shall, on arriving at any such place, immediately report to the Magistrate the number of the crew and other persons on board, the general state of their health, and the number of deaths (if any) which have occurred among the persons who embarked on board his vessel.

100. A Magistrate may, while any vessel in respect of which a license is granted hereunder is within the local limits of his jurisdiction, go on board such vessel and inspect the vessel and all persons being natives of India on board. The master and officers of such vessel shall afford to such Magistrate every facility for such inspection, and give him all such information as he may reasonably require respecting the labourers or other persons on board, the deaths, if any, which may have occurred on board, and any other facts which may affect the health of the passengers.

101. At any time while any such vessel is within the local limits of his jurisdiction, the Magistrate may regulate the communication between such vessel and the land, and may prohibit all persons from leaving such vessel and all persons on land from proceeding on board her.

102. Any Magistrate may, if he has reason to believe that any passengers being natives of India on board any such vessel within the local limits of his jurisdiction are, or are likely to be, affected with any dangerously infectious or contagious disease, detain such vessel and require the civil medical officer of the district or other qualified medical officer to inspect such passengers and to report on their health, stating whether any or what measures are requisite for the removal or prevention of such disease. After the receipt of such report, the Magistrate may order any such passenger suffering from any such disease to be disembarked and detained for medical treatment. If in the opinion of the inspecting medical officer it is dangerous to the health of the general body of the passengers to allow such vessel to proceed until measures have been taken to cleanse and disinfect her, the Magistrate may detain the vessel for a further period, not exceeding three days, for the purpose of carrying out such measures.

103. If, on receiving a report of a medical officer, it appears to a Magistrate that any labourer or any dependent of any labourer, though not suffering from any such disease as last aforesaid, is not in a fit state of health to proceed to the labour-district in which such labourer has contracted to labour, he may order such labourer or dependent to be detained, and shall cause all necessary arrangements to be made for the accommodation, support and medical treatment of the labourer or dependent so detained.

104. All expenses incurred under section one hundred and three by a Magistrate in respect of any labourer or dependent so detained shall be recoverable from the employer of such labourer together with interest at six per centum per annum.

105. Whenever it appears to a Magistrate making an inspection of any vessel in respect of which a license is granted hereunder that the number of passen-

gers on board being natives of India is larger than the number specified in such license or than the number specified in an order of an Embarkation Agent made under section ninety-one, he may remove the excess number and detain them until another opportunity of forwarding them to their destination is found. The necessary expense of maintaining such passengers while so detained and of forwarding them to their destination shall be paid by such Magistrate, and shall be recoverable from the master or owner of such vessel.

106. Whenever, on making an inspection of any vessel in respect of which a license is granted hereunder, a Magistrate finds that any of the provisions of this Act or of any rule of the Local Government made hereunder have not been complied with in respect of such vessel, he shall report the same to the Embarkation Agent by whom such license was granted; and, if he considers it necessary to do so, he may detain the vessel until such provisions have been so complied with as to make it possible for the voyage to be further prosecuted with safety and reasonable comfort to the emigrants.

107. The Local Government may make rules regulating disembarkment and other matters.

- (a) the disembarkation of labourers and their dependents, and their inspection and accommodation on arrival at their destination;
- (b) the detention of such labourers or dependents at debarkation-depôts;
- (c) the forwarding of labourers to their destination and the closing and return of way-bills by employers.

All expenses incurred by any Magistrate or Embarkation Agent in accordance with such rules shall be recoverable from the employers of such labourers together with interest at the rate of twelve per centum per annum.

108. The Magistrate of a district, or of a division of a district, may from time to time authorize any subordinate Magistrate, medical officer or officer of police above the rank of sub-inspector to exercise the powers and authorities conferred, and to perform the duties imposed, on a Magistrate under sections ninety-nine to one hundred and six, both inclusive.

CHAPTER VI.

PROVISIONS AS TO THE LABOUR-DISTRICTS.

A.—Annual Rate payable by Employers.

109. Every employer shall, on the first day of January and the first day of July in each year, pay in respect of each labourer then in his employ such rate, not exceeding an annual sum of one rupee, as the Local Government may by notification in the official Gazette direct.

110. If any employer fails, for the space of one month after the receipt of a notice in such form and served in such manner as the Local Government may prescribe, to pay any sum due

by him under the provisions of the last preceding section, such sum shall be recoverable as if it were an arrear of land-revenue due from such employer.

B.—Local Labour-contracts.

111. Notwithstanding anything hereinbefore contained, any employer may enter into a labour-contract with any native of India within a labour-district. When any employer has executed any such contract with any such native within a labour-district, he shall, within one month from the date of the execution of such contract, forward it in duplicate to the Inspector within the local limits of whose jurisdiction such employer resides. On receipt of the contract so forwarded, the Inspector shall enter an abstract thereof in a register to be kept by him for the purpose, and shall then give one copy of the contract to the labourer and the other copy to his employer.

Registration of such contracts.

When, for the first time after the registration of any such contract with a labourer, the Inspector visits the estate on which such labourer is employed, the employer shall cause such labourer to appear before the Inspector, and such labourer may thereupon apply to the Inspector to cancel the contract; and, if he shows cause sufficient in the opinion of the Inspector to justify the cancellation, the Inspector may cancel the contract, and shall thereupon endorse on the labourer's copy of the contract, or if such copy be not forthcoming, shall give to the labourer, a certificate of such cancellation.

112. Any employer desirous of entering into a labour-contract with any native of India in a labour-district may, instead of executing such contract under section one hundred and eleven, appear either in person or by agent with such native before the Inspector or Magistrate within the local limits of whose jurisdiction such employer resides.

Such Inspector or Magistrate shall thereupon explain the labour-contract to such native, and shall, if satisfied that he is competent to enter into and understands the same, call upon him and the employer or his agent to execute it in his presence; and, if they execute it, shall attest such execution with his signature.

An abstract of every such labour-contract shall be entered in a register to be kept by the Inspector or Magistrate for the purpose; and one copy of such contract shall then be given to the labourer and the other copy to his employer or his agent.

In respect of every labour-contract an abstract whereof is registered under section one hundred and eleven or under this section, the employer who executes such contract in person or by agent shall pay to the Inspector or Magistrate such fee, not exceeding one rupee, as the Local Government may direct.

C.—Employers' Returns and Magistrates' Inspections.

113. Every employer shall keep such registers of all labourers and other persons employed on the estate of which he is in charge, in such form, and shall make to the Inspector within the local limits of whose jurisdiction such

estate is situate such periodical returns in writing, as the Local Government may by rule prescribe. The Inspector may examine such registers and muster all labourers and other persons employed on any estate within such local limits, and may verify the accuracy of the entries in such registers, or in any prescribed periodical return.

114. Any Inspector or Magistrate, or any person authorized by either of them in writing in this behalf, may at any time enter and inspect all lands and houses wholly or partially used by or for labourers, or by or for any other natives of India employed on any estate who are not natives of the labour-district in which such estate is situate, and may require that any labourer or other such native shall be brought before him, and that a copy of the labour-contract of any labourer shall be produced, and may make any inquiries which he thinks proper touching the condition or treatment of any labourer or other such native.

Inspector and Magistrate may at any time inspect lands, &c., used by labourers, &c.

D.—Regulation of Labour.

115. Every employer shall prepare a schedule specifying the daily task to be executed by each labourer employed on the estate of which such employer is in charge, and may from time to time alter any schedule so prepared.

One copy of every such schedule shall be filed in a book which shall be open to the examination of the Inspector, and another copy thereof in the Bengali language shall be stuck up in some conspicuous place accessible to the labourers to whom such schedule relates.

The minimum payment for each daily task shall be the quotient resulting from dividing the monthly wage of the labourer concerned by the whole number of days in the current month.

116. No labourer shall be bound to labour more than six days in one week, or more than six consecutive hours, or more than nine hours in any one day. Every labourer shall, for one day in each week, receive wages as for a full task done, without being required to labour for the same. The employer shall, on six days in each week, provide for each labourer work sufficient to enable him to earn at least his minimum daily wage. Failing such due provision of work, the labourer shall, if he can show that he was able and willing to labour for the same, be entitled to claim his minimum daily wage.

117. If the Inspector considers that any schedule of daily tasks, or any part thereof, is unreasonable, he may by order in writing direct that a reduction specified in such order be made of such tasks. The employer shall at once make such reduction, but may, if dissatisfied with the Inspector's order, by notice in writing require the Inspector to refer the schedule to a committee for consideration. Such committee shall consist—

- (a) of the Inspector,
- (b) of some person to be nominated by the employer whose schedule is to be considered, and
- (c) if practicable, of a medical officer.

Where the employer fails to nominate a person within seven days after being thereunto requested in writing by the Inspector, the Inspector, instead of the employer so failing, may nominate a person.

Provisions for revision of schedule by Inspector subject to appeal to committee.

When the committee consists only of the Inspector or and of a person nominated by the employer or Inspector, the Inspector shall have the casting vote.

118. If such committee, or a majority thereof, is of opinion that the daily tasks specified in such schedule or any of them are unreasonable, they shall modify and reduce them in such manner as they think fit. The employer shall thereupon alter his schedule accordingly, and copies of the schedule so altered shall be filed and stuck up in the manner directed in section one hundred and fifteen, and shall, as between him and the labourers concerned, take the place of the former schedule.

119. Notwithstanding anything contained in any such schedule, the Inspector may order that any specified labourer, who is in his opinion unable from weakness to earn by his labour the sum of one anna and a half per diem, according to the said schedule, shall receive, in lieu of such actual earnings, subsistence-allowance at the rate of one anna and a half per diem, or diet on a scale to be approved by such Inspector. Such subsistence-allowance shall be recoverable as if it were an arrear of wages.

E.—Incapacity for Labour.

120. The Inspector within the local limits of whose jurisdiction any labourer is employed may release such labourer, for such period as he thinks fit, from performing his labour-contract, if he be, in the judgment of such Inspector, temporarily unfitted for the performance thereof by reason of sickness, or other sufficient cause.

Every such release shall be endorsed by the Inspector on the labour-contract, and the time during which the release continues shall not be reckoned as part of the term for which the labourer is bound to serve. Every such labourer shall, during such release, receive such subsistence-allowance from his employer as the Inspector thinks sufficient.

121. If any labourer is compelled to absent himself from work on account of sickness, he shall receive from his employer for each day of such absence subsistence-allowance of one anna and a half, or, if in hospital, sick diet on a scale to be approved by the Inspector.

If such absence exceeds the total number of thirty days in any one year, and the employer, as soon as such number is exceeded, gives the labourer a notice in writing to that effect, each day of absence in excess of such number shall be added to the term of the labour-contract, unless the labourer refunds to the employer the sum of one anna and a half for each day so in excess. The Inspector shall from time to time, when visiting the estate, endorse on the labourer's labour-contract, after such enquiry as may be necessary, the number of days so added to the term thereof.

122. If, in the opinion of the Inspector, any labourer is permanently incapacitated for the performance of his labour-contract or any material part thereof, the Inspector shall

certify to that effect in writing and deliver such certificate to the employer of such labourer or his agent, and from the date of such certificate the labour-contract of such labourer shall wholly determine. Every labourer whose labour-contract so determines shall be entitled to receive from his employer such sum, not exceeding three months' wages, as the Inspector may award.

Such sum and any subsistence-allowance mentioned in sections one hundred and twenty and one hundred and twenty-one shall be recoverable as if they were arrears of wages.

F.—Accommodation for Labourers.

123. Every employer shall be bound to provide for the labourers employed on the estate of which he is in charge such house accommodation, water-supply and sanitary arrangements as the Local Government may by rule direct.

124. When the food-grain commonly used by any class of labourers is not procurable by such labourers at reasonable prices in the local markets near the estate on which such labourers are employed, the employer of such labourers shall be bound to supply them with such grain at a reasonable price. The Local Government may by notification in the official Gazette determine, either generally or for each district or part of a district, what shall for the purposes of this section be deemed to be a reasonable price.

125. Subject to any rules which may be made by the Local Government in this behalf, any Inspector may, by order in writing,

(a) direct that, on any specified estate within the local limits of his jurisdiction, all the labourers or any specified class of labourers shall be furnished by their employer with rations, cooked or uncooked, on such scale, for such period not exceeding three months from the date of their arrival on the estate, as may be specified in such order;

(b) exempt any specified labourer from the effect of any such general order if he is satisfied that such labourer is able to earn a full wage and desires to provide himself with proper and sufficient food;

(c) direct that any specified labourer shall be furnished with rations for any term not exceeding six months, and renew any such order for a like term.

The cost of each labourer's ration furnished to him in accordance with any order made under this section shall be calculated at current rates as determined by the Inspector, and shall be deducted from any wages earned by the labourer during the period for which such order is in force.

126. If any employer does not, in the opinion of the Inspector, provide such hospital-accommodation in a suitable place available to the labourers employed upon the estate of which he is in charge, or does not make such provision for the medical treatment of such labourers, as the Local Government may direct, the Local Government may require such employer to contribute to the support of a central hospital to be established, or to the pay of a medical officer to be appointed,

for the medical treatment of such labourers, such sum, proportionate to the number of labourers so employed, as it thinks fit.

127. Any Inspector or Assistant Inspector who is himself a Magistrate may, with respect to any estate situate within the local limits of his jurisdiction, institute an inquiry whether the employer in charge of such estate has provided for his labourers house-accommodation, water-supply, sanitary arrangements, food-grains and rations in accordance with the rules prescribed by the Local Government. At the instance of any Inspector or Assistant Inspector a similar inquiry may be made by a Magistrate. Every such inquiry shall be held at some place on the estate to which it relates, or within ten miles of such estate, and shall be conducted and dealt with as if it were an inquiry of a Magistrate under the Code of Criminal Procedure.

G.—Localities unfit for the Residence of Labourers.

128. If in the opinion of the Inspector any estate or portion of an estate situate within the local limits of his jurisdiction is at any time, by reason of climate, situation or condition, unfit for the residence of labourers, or of any particular class of labourers, he shall give notice in writing of such opinion to the Magistrate of the district; and such Magistrate shall forthwith, by order in writing, summon a Committee to inquire into the matter.

Such Committee shall consist of the Magistrate, the Inspector, the medical officer of the district and one or more employers of labourers, when such employers are available.

If the Magistrate is unable to procure the service on such Committee of any employer of labourers, he may, with the previous sanction of the Commissioner of the division, appoint one or more persons qualified to serve on such Committee.

129. Such Committee shall as soon as may be inquire into the healthiness of the estate or portion to which the order appointing the Committee relates, and shall hear and record such information on the subject as the owner of such estate or portion, or the employer in charge thereof or the Inspector, may desire to place before it.

If such Committee or the majority thereof is of opinion that such estate or portion, or any part of such estate or portion, is unfit for the residence of labourers generally, or of any particular class of labourers, it shall record a finding to that effect.

When such finding has been recorded, no labourer, or no labourer of the particular class to which such finding relates, as the case may be, shall be bound by any labour-contract to labour on the estate or portion, or part of such estate or portion, as the case may be, which is found unfit for the residence of such labourers.

When any labourer is released under this section from the performance of a labour-contract to labour on any estate, he shall be bound

to labour on any other estate belonging to his employer and situate in the same labour-district; or, where the finding relates only to a portion or part of an estate, on any other portion or part of the same estate.

130. Whenever it appears to the Local Government that the number of labourers employed on an estate who have died thereon, or on any portion thereof, during the last preceding twelve months, or that the average annual number of labourers employed on an estate who have died thereon or on any portion thereof during the last preceding three years, bears a larger proportion to the whole number of labourers employed thereon during such period of twelve months or three years, as the case may be, than seven per centum, the Local Government may direct the civil medical officer of the

Local Government how to proceed if mortality in past year exceeds seven per cent., or if the average mortality for three years exceeds seven per cent. other qualified medical officer to inquire into and report on the following matters:—

- (a) the cause or causes of such mortality;
- (b) the want (if any) of due care or precaution, and of the adoption of proper and available sanitary measures, on the part of the owner of such estate or portion thereof, or the employer in charge of such estate or portion, causing or contributing to such mortality;
- (c) the fitness or otherwise of such estate or portion for the residence of labourers.

131. Such medical officer shall, as soon as may be, inquire into such matters, and shall hear and record such information relating thereto as the owner of such estate or portion, or the employer in charge of the same, or the Inspector, may place before him, and shall visit and inspect such estate or portion, and shall make a report expressing the reasons for his opinion, and transmit the same to the Local Government together with the information so recorded and the notes of his inspection of such estate or portion.

132. If the Local Government, after perusal and consideration of the said report, information and notes, is of opinion that such mortality was caused by the want, on the part of the owner of such estate or portion, or the employer in charge of the same, of due care or precaution, or of the adoption of proper and available sanitary measures, and that such estate or portion is thereby rendered unfit for the residence of labourers, it may declare in writing that such estate or portion is unfit for the residence of labourers. Such declaration of the Local Government shall have the same effect as the finding of a Committee under section one hundred and twenty-nine.

133. If it at any time appears to the Inspector or that any estate or portion thereof, or any part of such portion, found under section one hundred and twenty-nine, or declared under section one hundred and thirty-two, to be unfit for the residence of labourers, or any particular class of labourers, has become fit for the residence of such labourers or

such particular class of labourers, as the case may be, he shall, with the previous sanction of the Magistrate of the district in which such estate, portion or part is situate, give a certificate to that effect signed by him. Thereupon all labourers who have been released under section one hundred and twenty-nine or section one hundred and thirty-two from the performance of a contract to labour on such estate, portion or part, shall again be bound to labour on the estate, portion or part, as the case may be, to which the certificate relates.

H.—Complaints made by Labourers.

184. If any labourer states to his employer, or any person acting on behalf of his employer, that he desires to make a complaint to the Inspector or to any Magistrate of personal ill-usage or breach, on the part of his employer or such person, of any provisions of this Act or of any rule of the Local Government made hereunder, the person to whom such statement is made shall forthwith send such labourer to the Inspector or Magistrate within the local limits of whose jurisdiction the estate wherein he is employed is situate: Provided that, if more than ten labourers at any one time so state their desire to make such a complaint, the person to whom the statement is made may, instead of sending such labourers to such Inspector or Magistrate, give him notice in writing of their complaint.

185. Whenever any such complaint is made to an Inspector or Magistrate how to proceed if complaint is made to him, Inspector or Magistrate receives notice in writing of any such complaint, or if he has reason to believe that there is ground for a complaint, any employer or person acting on his behalf has personally ill-used, or committed any breach mentioned in section one hundred and thirty-four in respect of, any labourer, such Inspector or Magistrate shall, as soon as may be, proceed to some place not more than ten miles from the principal place of business of such employer situate within the local limits of his jurisdiction, and inquire into the matter complained of:

Provided that, if the place in which an Inspector or Magistrate has reasonable grounds for believing that such ill-usage or breach has been committed is situate beyond the local limits of his jurisdiction, he shall, instead of inquiring into the matter himself, forthwith send information thereof in writing to the Inspector or Magistrate within the local limits of whose jurisdiction such ill-usage or breach has been committed.

For the purposes of an inquiry under this section, the Inspector or Magistrate may summon and examine any person as a witness.

186. If, upon such inquiry made on the complaint of a labourer, the Inspector or Magistrate is of opinion that the complaint is untrue or frivolous or vexatious, he shall dismiss the complaint; and in such case shall endorse on the employer's copy of the complainant's labour-contract the number of days during which the complainant has been absent from work in consequence of the inquiry, and the number of days

so endorsed shall be added to the period for which the complainant contracted to labour.

Every such endorsement shall be conclusive evidence that the complainant has absented himself from his labour voluntarily and without reasonable cause during the number of days so endorsed.

187. When any complaint is dismissed under section one hundred and thirty-six, the Inspector or Magistrate may award to the employer any reasonable compensation on account of any expense incurred by him in connection with such complaint, and shall endorse the amount of such compensation on the complainant's copy of the labour-contract. The complainant shall be bound to pay the amount so awarded; and in default of such payment his labour-contract shall not be deemed to have determined until he has worked off such amount at the rate of one day's labour for each four annas of such amount.

188. If, upon such inquiry by a Magistrate or by an Inspector who is a Magistrate, such Magistrate or Inspector is of opinion that there is sufficient ground for proceeding with the case, he shall dispose of the same according to law. If the Inspector is not a Magistrate and is of such opinion, he shall without delay send the complainant and his witnesses (if any) to the nearest Magistrate; and such Magistrate shall thereupon dispose of the case according to law.

189. If, upon the complaint of any labourer, it is proved to the satisfaction of a Magistrate that the wages of such labourer are in arrear for two months, or if the wages of any person whose labour-contract has determined are proved to the satisfaction of a Magistrate to have been withheld for any period after such determination, the Magistrate may award to such labourer or person the amount which appears to be then due to him; and also, by way of compensation, such further sum, not exceeding that amount, as to such Magistrate seems just; and, in case of default in payment of the amount so awarded, the Magistrate shall levy such amount by distress and sale of any moveable property belonging to the employer of such labourer or person.

140. Whenever it is proved to the satisfaction of a Magistrate—

(a) that any employer, or any person placed by him in authority over any labourer, has been convicted of any offence causing injury to the person, or loss or damage to the property, of such labourer and under the Code of Criminal Procedure triable exclusively by the Court of Session, or

(b) that any employer, or other person as aforesaid, has been twice convicted of any such offence against such labourer and under the said Code triable by a Magistrate, or

(c) that the wages of any labourer are in arrear for more than four months, or to an amount exceeding the whole of such labourer's wages for four months, or

(d) that any labourer has been compelled by his employer or by any person placed by his employer

in authority over him to perform any labour while he was unfit for it, or has been subjected to or if ill-usage is ill-usage by his employer or any such person, proved.

such Magistrate may, if he thinks fit, on the application of the labourer aggrieved, cancel the labour-contract of such labourer, and award to him compensation not exceeding thirty rupees.

Every such cancellation shall be certified by the Magistrate on the back of the labourer's copy of the labour-contract, or, if the same be not forthcoming, by writing under the Magistrate's hand delivered to the labourer.

I.—Determination of Labour-contract.

141. Whenever a labour-contract determines, the employer shall endorse on the labourer's copy of the contract the fact of such determination, or, if such copy be not forthcoming, shall give to the labourer a certificate of such determination; and, if the employer refuses or neglects to do so, the Inspector may, on application by the labourer, make such endorsement or give such certificate.

The employer shall give to the Inspector notice in writing of such determination within one month from the date thereof.

142. If any labourer is able and desirous to redeem the unexpired term of his labour-contract or of the labour-contract of any member of his family, by payment of a sum equivalent to the value of such unexpired term, such labourer may require his employer to take him, or allow him to go, before the Inspector within the local limits of whose jurisdiction he may be employed; and, on his depositing such sum with such Inspector, the Inspector shall give notice to the employer that the labourer requires him, within one week, to show cause why the labourer, the unexpired term of whose contract is proposed to be redeemed, should not be released from his contract. If no sufficient cause is shown, the Inspector shall require such labourer's copy of the contract to be produced, and on production thereof shall endorse thereon a certificate that he has been released under this section from such contract, or, if such copy be not forthcoming, shall deliver to the labourer a certificate under his hand to that effect; and shall in either case hold the sum so deposited to the credit of the employer of such labourer.

The value of the unexpired term of a labour-contract shall, for the purposes of this section, be deemed to be the aggregate amount of one rupee for every month of the unexpired portion of the first year, of three rupees for every such month of the second year, and of five rupees for every such month of the third, fourth and fifth years of the original term of the contract.

CHAPTER VII.

SUPPLEMENTARY POWERS.

143. The Local Government may make rules consistent with this Act—

- (a) to define and regulate the powers and duties of the several officers appointed by it under this Act;

- (b) to prescribe what returns and reports shall be made under this Act by any such officers or by any contractors or local agents within the territories under its administration and the form in which they shall be respectively so made;
- (c) to prescribe the forms of all registers, licenses, certificates and notices required under this Act with respect to the territories under its administration;
- (d) to prescribe the particulars to be registered by a Registering officer in respect of each person who is brought before him in any district under its administration for registration as a labourer or dependent;
- (e) to prescribe the fees to be paid for any license granted under this Act by any officer appointed by it and for the registration of labourers or dependents in any district under its administration;
- (f) to prescribe the conditions upon which any officer appointed by it may grant licenses to masters of vessels carrying passengers to any labour-district; to provide for the ventilation, cleanliness and water-supply of such vessels in respect of which licenses are granted hereunder by any such officer; and to prescribe the lists, returns and reports to be kept and submitted by the masters of such vessels;
- (g) to prescribe the description, quantity and quality of provisions, medical drugs and other stores to be taken on board such vessels carrying labourers when such vessels are within the territories under its administration, and the daily allowance to be issued to each labourer and dependent during the journey through such territories; to prescribe the number of officers, cooks and other servants to be carried on board such vessels, and to provide generally for the accommodation of labourers and their dependents on such vessels;
- (h) to provide for the accommodation, food, clothing and medical treatment of all labourers and dependents detained on account of sickness by order of a Magistrate at any place within any district under its administration;
- (i) to declare the routes through the territories under its administration by which labourers and their dependents shall not travel to the labour-districts;
- (j) to prescribe the house-accommodation, water-supply, sanitary arrangements and amount and kind of food-grains to be provided by employers for their labourers, and to regulate the rations to be supplied to labourers under this Act in the labour-districts under its administration;
- (k) to provide for the hospital-accommodation and medical treatment of labourers in such labour-districts, and to prescribe the nature, quality and quantity of medical drugs and other stores to be provided for such labourers;

- (4) to provide for the management and regulation of contractors' depôts and of hospital-depôts situate within the territories under its administration, and for the support and medical treatment of labourers and their dependents passing through such depôts;
- (m) to prescribe the clothing to be supplied to labourers and their dependents while proceeding to the labour-districts through the territories under its administration; and, generally,
- (n) to give effect to the provisions of this Act within the districts subject to its administration.

144. The Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal and the Chief Commissioner of Assam may further respectively make rules consistent with this Act to provide for the detention and inspection of vessels in respect of which licenses are granted hereunder and passengers being natives of India carried thereon while in transit through the territories respectively administered by them.

145. The Local Government may, subject to the control of the Governor General in Council, by rule prescribe as a penalty for the infringement of any rule made by it hereunder, or of any provision of this Act for a breach of which a penalty is not expressly provided, a fine which may extend to five hundred rupees.

All rules made under this Act by the Local Government shall be published in the local official Gazette, and shall thereupon have the force of law.

CHAPTER VIII.

PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE.

146. Whoever knowingly induces or assists, or attempts to induce or assist, any native of India to emigrate in contravention of a notification published under section five shall be punished with fine which may extend to fifty rupees for every such native whom he so induces or assists, or attempts to induce or assist.

147. Whoever, being a recruiter, removes, or attempts to remove, any person to a depôt before he has been registered under section thirty-two, or induces or attempts to induce him to go to a depôt or to leave the local limits of the jurisdiction of the Registering officer before whom such person ought to be brought under section thirty-one, or aids or attempts to aid such person in going to a depôt or in leaving any such local limits, before he has been so registered, or induces or attempts to induce any person who has been so registered to proceed to any place other than the depôt which has been established by the contractor on whose behalf such recruiter is licensed, or conveys or attempts to convey him to such place,

shall be punished in respect of every such person with fine which may extend to fifty rupees, or with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month.

148. Whoever, being a recruiter or a person deputed by him to accompany labourers to a depôt, fails to provide any labourer or any dependent whom he accompanies on the journey to the depôt with proper and sufficient food and lodging, or otherwise ill-treats such labourer or dependent on such journey, shall be punished with fine which may extend to fifty rupees; and, in default of payment of such fine within twenty-four hours, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month.

The convicting Magistrate may award the whole or any portion of any fine levied under this section as compensation to the labourer in respect of whom, or of whose dependent, such failure or ill-treatment has occurred.

149. Any labourer engaged by a recruiter and who, having been registered under section thirty-two, without reasonable cause refuses or neglects when at the depôt to execute, within thirty days

after his arrival at such depôt, a labour-contract in conformity with the terms made known to him when he was registered, shall be punished with fine which may extend to the amount of the expense incurred in registering him and conveying him to the depôt and maintaining him therein; and, in default of payment of such fine, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month.

Any labourer so punished may be forthwith discharged from the depôt.

Every fine levied under this section shall be paid to the contractor, sub-contractor or recruiter by whom such expense was incurred.

150. Any labourer registered under section sixty-six who, without reasonable cause, refuses or neglects to execute, within fifteen days from the day on which he was so registered, a labour-contract in conformity with the terms made known to him when he was registered, shall be punished with fine which may extend to twenty rupees or to the amount of the expense reasonably incurred by the garden-sardâr in procuring his registration, whichever amount is least.

Every fine levied under this section shall be paid to the garden-sardâr by whom such expense was incurred.

151. Whoever, being a garden-sardâr, fails, within fourteen days after his arrival in the local area within which he is authorized to enter into contracts under this Act, to report himself to the local agent (if any) specified in his certificate, or

removes or attempts to remove any person to a labour-district before he has been registered as provided by section sixty-six, or

induces or attempts to induce any person to go to a labour-district or to leave the local area specified in the certificate of such sardâr before he has been so registered, or aids or attempts to aid him in proceeding to a labour-district or in leaving any such local area before he has been so registered, or

fails without sufficient cause to return to his employer within the time specified in his certificate, or

fails to account for the money advanced to him by his employer for the purpose of engaging labourers, and

whoever being a garden-sardár or a person appointed under section fifty or section seventy-three to accompany labourers to a labour-district wilfully abandons any labourer or his dependent on the way to such district,

shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month.

152. Any garden-sardár who

makes over to any contractor, sub-contractor or recruiter, or to the garden-sardár or local agent of any employer other than the employer by whom his certificate was granted, any persons engaged as labourers by him, or

allows any persons engaged as labourers by any other contractor or sub-contractor or recruiter to share the accommodation provided by him under section fifty-seven, or

places any person engaged as a labourer by him in a contractor's depôt or in the place of accommodation provided by a recruiter in accordance with the provisions of section twenty-seven,

shall be punished with fine which may extend to ten rupees; and his certificate may be impounded by the convicting Magistrate.

Any Magistrate impounding a certificate under this section shall send it for cancellation to the Magistrate by whom it was countersigned.

153. Any garden-sardár or person appointed by

him as provided by section seventy-three, who accompanies labourers to the labour-districts, and fails to present a way-bill as required by section seventy-six or to carry out any of the instructions entered in such way-bill, shall be punished with fine which may extend to twenty rupees.

154. Any master not licensed under section

eighty-nine who, in contravention of section eighty-seven, knowingly receives on board his vessel more than twenty passengers being natives of India, and

any master licensed as aforesaid who knowingly receives on board his vessel any such passengers in excess of the number specified in his license or in any order of an Embarkation Agent under section ninety-one, for the purpose of transporting them to a labour-district,

shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees for each passenger so received.

Nothing in this section applies to the master of a vessel exempted under section eighty-seven.

155. Any master licensed under section eighty-

nine who with intent to defraud does or suffers to be done any act or thing whereby the state of his vessel is altered, so that such vessel is unfit for the accommodation of the number of passengers specified in his license or in any order made under section ninety-one by an Embarkation Agent, shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

156. Any master licensed as aforesaid who pro-

ceeds on his voyage with his vessel carrying labourers without having complied with the provisions of section ninety-four shall be punished with fine

which may extend to five hundred rupees, or with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three months.

157. Any master licensed as aforesaid who fails

Master not complying with order under section 96. to comply with an order of an Embarkation Agent made under section ninety-six shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees for each day during which he fails to comply with such order after the day on which the order was received by him.

158. Any master licensed as aforesaid causing

Master permitting labourer to leave vessel contrary to section 98. or permitting a labourer finally to leave his vessel contrary to the provisions of section ninety-eight shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees for each labourer so leaving his vessel.

159. Any master licensed as aforesaid who wil-

fully omits to comply with the provisions of section ninety-nine shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

160. Any person who disobeys any order made

under section one hundred and one by a Magistrate shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

161. Any master licensed as aforesaid, or any

Master or medical officer in charge of his vessel, who wilfully omits or neglects to obey or enforce on board of such vessel any provision of this Act or any rule made hereunder, shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

162. Any labourer who, having been registered

Labourer deserting, under section thirty-two of &c., after registration, section sixty-six, deserts while on his journey from the district in which he has been so registered to a labour-district, or without reasonable cause refuses or neglects to proceed from the district in which he has been so registered, or to embark in any vessel when called upon to do so by an Embarkation Agent, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three months.

163. Any employer who refuses or wilfully

Employer refusing or omitting to keep such registers, or to make such periodical returns in writing to the Inspector, as may be prescribed by any rule made hereunder, or who knowingly keeps an incorrect register or makes an incorrect return, or who wilfully omits to prepare, file or stick up a schedule as required by section one hundred and fifteen, shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

164. Any employer, or any person acting under

Employer or other person obstructing inspection under section 114. his orders or on his behalf, who wilfully obstructs any entry, inspection or inquiry made under section one hundred and fourteen shall for every such offence be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

165. Any employer, or any person acting under his orders or on his behalf, who compels any labourer to perform any labour, knowing that he is at the time unfit to perform such labour, shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

Employer or other person compelling labourer to perform labour for which he is unfit.

166. Any person who buys the rations which have been furnished under section one hundred and twenty-five to any labourer, and any labourer who sells any such rations, shall be punished with fine which may extend to fifty rupees, or with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month.

Persons buying labourer's rations.

167. Any employer who wilfully omits to provide house-accommodation, water-supply, sanitary arrangements, food-grains or rations in accordance with the provisions of this Act or any rule made hereunder, shall be punished with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees; and the convicting Magistrate may order him to comply with such provisions within a reasonable time to be fixed in the order.

Employer omitting to provide house-accommodation, &c.

If the employer wilfully omits to comply with such order within the time so fixed, he shall be punished with fine which may extend to one hundred rupees for each day during which such omission continues.

If the employer fails to pay the last-mentioned fine, the person on whose account he has been acting shall be liable to pay such fine.

168. Any employer who fails to provide such hospital-accommodation for, or to make such provision for the medical care and treatment of, labourers, as is required by any rule made under this Act, shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees for each week during which such default continues.

Employer neglecting to provide hospital-accommodation.

169. Where any estate or portion thereof has been found under section one hundred and twenty-nine, or declared under section one hundred and thirty-two, unfit for the residence of labourers or any class of labourers, as the case may be, every employer who, until a certificate has been given under section one hundred and thirty-three, causes or permits such labourers or class of labourers to reside or labour upon such estate or portion, shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

Employer causing labourer to reside on estate declared unfit.

170. Every employer may, on or before the fifteenth day of each month, send to the Inspector a statement in writing containing the names of all or any of his labourers who, voluntarily and without reasonable cause, absented themselves from labour during the preceding month, and specifying the periods of such absence. When any employer sends any such statement in writing, he shall at the same time notify to each labourer concerned the fact that he has done so.

Unlawful absence from work.

Any Inspector who receives any such statement shall, when next visiting the estate on which the labourers to whom such statement relates are employed, inquire into each such case of absence, in the presence of the labourer concerned, and, if satisfied that the labourer has voluntarily and without

reasonable cause absented himself, shall, unless the labourer consents to forfeit to his employer the sum of four annas for each such day of absence, endorse such days of absence on the labour-contract of such labourer, and add them to the term of such contract.

171. Any labourer who, voluntarily and without reasonable cause, absents himself from his labour for more than seven consecutive days, or for more than seven days in any one month, shall be liable to forfeit his wages for the period of such absence, and to pay to his employer a sum not exceeding four annas for each such day of absence, and shall also be liable to imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen days; and in case such absence has extended to twenty days in any two consecutive months, to imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month.

Labourer absent without cause.

Explanation.—Ill-treatment of such labourer by his employer, or failure of the employer to fulfil any condition of the labour-contract binding on the employer, is reasonable cause within the meaning of section one hundred and seventy and this section.

172. If any labourer deserts from his employer's service, such employer, or any person acting on his behalf, may, without a warrant and without the assistance of any police-officer, arrest such labourer wherever he may be found: Provided that, if such labourer be found within five miles of the place where a Magistrate resides or in the service of another employer, he shall not be arrested without warrant.

Deserter may be apprehended without warrant.

Every police-officer shall assist in arresting any such labourer if so required by the employer or person acting on his behalf.

Whoever arrests a labourer under this section shall without delay take him to the police-station nearest to the place of the arrest; and if he fails to do so shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

173. The police-officer in charge of such station shall on the appearance of the parties take down in writing the statement of the person arresting the labourer, and shall then forthwith send the labourer to the nearest Magistrate.

Procedure at police-station.

Such Magistrate shall either inquire into and dispose of the case himself, or, if the estate of the employer from whose service the labourer deserted is not situate within the local limits of such Magistrate's jurisdiction, he shall forward the labourer to the Magistrate within the local limits of whose jurisdiction such estate is situate.

The Magistrate to whom the labourer is forwarded shall dispose of the case according to law.

174. Whenever an employer or a person acting on his behalf complains to a Magistrate that a labourer has deserted from his employer's service, such Magistrate may, without previously examining the complainant, issue a summons for the attendance of such labourer, or a warrant for his arrest, and fix a day for hearing the complaint.

Procedure on complaint of desertion.

175. Every labourer who deserts from his employer's service shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month. For a second conviction for a like offence he shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two months. For a third and every subsequent conviction for a like offence he shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three months.

176. If it appears to the Magistrate trying for a labourer for deserting from his employer's service that such labourer was arrested without sufficient cause, such Magistrate may impose a fine, which may extend to fifty rupees, on the employer or person acting on his behalf by whom, or at whose instance, such labourer was arrested. The Magistrate may in his sentence direct that the whole or any part of such fine be paid by way of compensation to the labourer so arrested.

177. Whenever any labourer has actually suffered imprisonment for terms amounting in the whole to six months for desertion from his employer's service, the Inspector shall cancel the labour-contract of such labourer, and shall endorse on his copy of the contract a certificate of such cancellation; or, if such copy be not forthcoming, he shall give to the labourer a written certificate of such cancellation.

178. Any labourer guilty of habitual drunkenness, or wilfully disregarding any sanitary regulation approved by the Inspector and duly notified for the guidance of the labourers on the estate on which such labourer is employed, shall be punished with fine which may extend to five rupees or with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one week.

179. The employer of any labourer sentenced to imprisonment for any offence under this Act, or any person authorized to act in this behalf for such employer, may apply to the Magistrate, at any time previous to the expiry of such sentence, that such labourer be made over to him for the purpose of completing his labour-contract. On such application being made, the Magistrate may, if he thinks fit, order that such labourer be made over or forwarded to his employer;

and in that case such Magistrate shall cancel the remainder of the sentence passed on the labourer, and shall endorse on his copy of the labour-contract a certificate of such cancellation, or, if such copy be not forthcoming, shall give him a written certificate of such cancellation.

Nothing in this section shall be deemed to affect the provisions of section one hundred and seventy-seven.

180. Every employer who obtains an order of a Magistrate for the making over or forwarding of any labourer shall be liable to defray the expense (if any) incurred in such making over or forwarding; and shall, before the order is issued, deposit with the Magistrate a sum sufficient in the Magistrate's opinion to defray such expense.

181. On the expiry of any sentence of imprisonment for any offence under this Act, the Magistrate shall, subject to the provisions of section one hundred and seventy-seven, make over such labourer to any person appointed on the part of his employer to take charge of him; and no conviction under this Act, or imprisonment under such conviction, shall, save as aforesaid, operate as a release to any labourer from the terms of his labour-contract:

If no person is present on the part of the employer to take charge of the labourer at the expiry of his sentence, the Magistrate shall forward such labourer to the principal place of business of his employer situate within the local limits of such Magistrate's jurisdiction, and the expense of such forwarding shall be recoverable from such employer as if it were an arrear of land-revenue.

182. When any labourer is convicted under section one hundred and seventy-one of absence from labour or is sentenced to imprisonment for an offence under this Act, the Magistrate so convicting or sentencing him shall endorse on the employer's copy of the labour-contract the period during which such labourer is convicted of being absent from his labour, or the term for which he is sentenced to imprisonment, or both, as the case may be.

The period so endorsed shall be added to the term for which such labourer contracted to serve; and such labourer shall not be deemed to have performed his labour-contract till he has served for the term specified therein in addition to the period so endorsed.

183. Whoever, knowing that any labourer is bound by his labour-contract to labour for any employer, voluntarily entices or attempts to entice such labourer to leave such employer, or harbours or employs any such labourer who has, in contravention of the terms of his labour-contract, left his employer, shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees, or with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month, or with both.

The convicting Magistrate may in his discretion award to the employer with whom such labourer has contracted the whole or any part of any fine levied under this section.

184. Whoever, being bound by section one hundred and thirty-four to send any labourer before, or to give notice of any complaint to, an Inspector or Magistrate, refuses or neglects to send such labourer, or to give such notice, shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

185. Any employer who—
refuses or wilfully neglects to endorse the labourer's copy of his contract as required by section one hundred and forty-one, or detains a labourer after the determination of his labour-contract, or

fails to give to the Inspector notice in writing of such determination within one month of the date thereof,

shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

186. Any employer or person acting for an employer who refuses or neglects to comply with the request of a labourer made under section one hundred and forty-two shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

187. Whoever abets within the meaning of the Indian Penal Code any offence against this Act or any rule made hereunder shall be punished with the punishment provided for such offence.

188. Whoever commits any offence against this Act or any rule made hereunder shall be triable for such offence in any place in which he may be found as well as in any other place in which he might be tried under any law for the time being in force.

189. Nothing in this Act shall be deemed to prevent any person from being prosecuted under any other law for any act or omission which constitutes an offence against this Act or the rules made hereunder, or from being liable under any other law to any penalty higher than that provided by this Act for such offence: Provided that no person shall be punished twice for the same offence.

CHAPTER IX.

MISCELLANEOUS.

190. All arrears of wages due under any labour-contract shall be a charge upon the estate upon which the labourer to whom such labour-contract relates has been engaged to labour; or if he has engaged to labour upon any one of several estates managed by the same employer, shall be a charge upon that one of such estates upon which such labourer for the time being actually labours.

191. Whenever an estate on which any labourer has under this Act contracted to labour is transferred by act of parties or operation of law, or devolves, the person to whom it is so transferred or on whom it devolves shall be bound by the labour-contract of such labourer in the same manner and to the same extent as the person by or from whom it is transferred or devolves would have been bound by such contract, and shall have the same rights and remedies under such contract as such person would have had thereunder, if the estate had not been transferred or had not devolved.

No person who has ceased to be the owner of the estate upon which any labourer has under this Act contracted to labour shall be liable in respect of any breach of the labour-contract of such labourer which occurs after he has ceased to be such owner.

192. Subject to the power of a Magistrate under this Act or the Code of Criminal Procedure to award fines in whole or in part as compensation for the benefit of any complainant or other person, the Local Government shall credit all fines, fees and rates levied and paid under this Act in the territories under its administration to a fund which shall be called the "Inland Labour Transport Fund;" and such fund shall be at the disposal of such Local Government, in such manner as the Government of India may direct, for paying the salaries and allowances of all officers and establishments appointed under this Act by such Local Government and their pensionary and leave allowances, and generally for defraying the expenses of carrying out the purposes of this Act and the rules of the Local Government made hereunder. The annual surplus accruing in such fund shall be applied to reducing the annual rate or the registration-fees leviable under this Act, and not otherwise.

193. All sums heretofore expended on roads or other communications by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal out of the Inland Labour Transport Fund constituted by the said Bengal Act No. VII of 1873 shall be deemed to have been expended in accordance with law.

194. An Assistant Inspector shall perform all such duties and exercise all such powers of an Inspector as he is authorized in writing by the Inspector to perform or exercise.

195. All powers conferred by this Act on the Local Government or on any Superintendent, Medical Inspector, Emigration Agent or other officer may be exercised from time to time as occasion requires.

THE SCHEDULE.

(See section 9.)

Form of Labour-contract between Labourer and Employer.

This contract, made under the Inland Emigration Act, 1882, between *A B* (hereinafter called the labourer) of the one part, and* [*C D* (agent or legal agent or garden-sardār) on behalf of] *E F* (hereinafter called the employer) on the other part, witnesseth that the said* [agent or local agent or garden-sardār

on behalf of the said] employer doth hereby promise the said labourer, that if he, the said labourer, do remain and labour on the

† As the case may be. X estate † of his said employer Y estates

in the labour-district of for the term of years from the date of the execution of this contract, he, the said employer, will, from the date on which the said labourer commences to labour on such estate pay or cause to

be paid to the said labourer monthly wages at the rate of Rs. † for a completed daily task regulated in accordance with the

provisions of the said Act, and, when such task is not completed, monthly wages calculated at the same rate in proportion to the amount of work actually done, and that during such period he, the said employer, will supply to the said labourer rice at a price of Rs. — per maund, and will faithfully comply with all rules regarding house-accommodation, medical treatment, and the supply of food-grains or rations to the said labourer, which the Local Government may from time to time prescribe; and this contract further witnesseth that the said labourer doth hereby, in consideration of the aforesaid promise, agree so to remain and labour for the said employer. In witness whereof the said parties to these presents have hereunto set their hands at this day of 18 :

Signature of labourer and of employer (or of his agent, local agent or garden-sardar).

Form of Description of Labourer.

| NAME. | Father's Name. | Age. | Sex. | Caste. | RESIDENCE. | | | Descriptive marks. |
|-------|----------------|------|------|--------|------------|--------|----------|--------------------|
| | | | | | District. | Thana. | Village. | |
| | | | | | | | | |

[Endorsement to be filled up by Registering officer before whom the contract is executed.]

I hereby certify that, before the said A B signed this contract, I personally explained it to him.

Signed _____
Registering officer.

[Endorsement on labourer's copy of contract, to be left blank until the contract is determined.]

I hereby certify that the foregoing contract has been determined by effluxion of time (or by mutual consent, or under the provisions of section of Act , as the case may be).

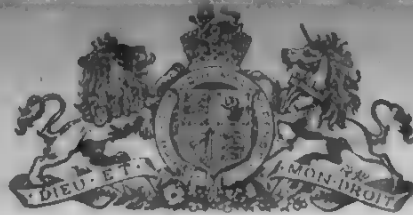
Dated at

This day of

} Signature of Employer
or of Inspector.

R. J. CROSTHWAITE,

Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India.



The Gazette of India.

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 1882.

Separate paging is given to this Part in order that it may be filed as a separate compilation.

PART IV.

Acts of the Governor General's Council assented to by the Governor General.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

[Second Publication.]

The following Act of the Governor General of India in Council received the assent of His Excellency the Governor General on the 6th January, 1882, and is hereby promulgated for general information:—

ACT No. I OF 1882.

THE INLAND EMIGRATION ACT, 1882.

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An Act to amend the law relating to Emigration to the Labour-districts of Bengal and Assam.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the law relating to the emigration of natives of India to the districts of Chittagong, the Chittagong Hill Tracts, Lakhimpur, Sibsaigar, Naugong, Darrang, Kamrup, Goalpara, Khasi Hills, Kachar and Silhat; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

CHAPTER I.

PRELIMINARY.

1. This Act may be called "The Inland Emigration Act, 1882."

Short title.
It extends to the territories respectively administered by the Lieutenant-Governors of Bengal and the North-Western Provinces and the Chief Commissioners of Oudh and Assam:

Local extent.
Commencement. And it shall come into force at once.

2. Bengal Act No. VII of 1873 (to amend the law relating to the emigration of labourers to the districts of Assam, Cachar and Silhat and to regulate contract-labour and service), Bengal Act No. II of 1878 (to extend the provisions of Bengal Act VII of 1873 to the district of Chittagong and to the Chittagong Hill Tracts) and Regulation No. IV of 1877 (a Regulation for extending to the Chief Commissionership of Assam, Chapter 13 of Bengal Act VII of 1873) are hereby repealed.

All contracts entered into, rules and appointments made, orders and notifications published and licenses granted under the said Bengal Act No. VII of 1873, or any of the Acts thereby repealed, and now in force, shall be deemed to have been respectively entered into, made, published and granted under this Act.

3. In this Act, unless there is something repugnant in the subject or context,—

Interpretation-clause.
The expression "the labour-districts" means the districts of Chittagong, the Chittagong Hill Tracts, Lakhimpur, Sibsaigar, Naugong, Darrang, Kamrup, Goalpara, Khasi Hills, Kachar and Silhat;

and the expression "a labour-district" means any one of such districts:

"Magistrate" means a Magistrate of a district, Sub-divisional Magistrate, and any other person appointed, by name or by virtue of his office, by the Local Government to perform the functions of a Magistrate under this Act:

"Superintendent," "Registering officer," "Inspector," "Assistant Inspector," "Inspector of Labourers" and "Assistant Inspector of Labourers" mean respectively a Superintendent of Emigration, a Registering officer, an Inspector of Labourers and an Assistant Inspector of Labourers appointed under this Act:

"Contractor," "sub-contractor," "recruiter" and "local agent" mean respectively a contractor, a sub-contractor, a recruiter and a local agent licensed under this Act:

"Labour-contract" means a contract entered into in accordance with the provisions of this Act to labour for hire in a labour-district, otherwise than as a domestic servant:

"Labourer" means any person bound by a contract under the provisions of the said Bengal Act No. VII of 1873 or by a labour-contract under the provisions of this Act. And it also includes any person registered under section thirty-two or section sixty-six as a labourer:

"Estate" means the land upon which any labourers or more than fifty other persons have been engaged to labour:

"Employer" means the chief person for the time being in charge of any estate upon which labourers or more than fifty other persons are employed:

"Emigrate" denotes the departure of any native of India of the age of sixteen years or upwards (other than a native of a labour-district) from any part of the territories administered by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, not being a labour-district, or from the territories respectively administered by the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces and the Chief Commissioner of Oudh, for the purpose of labouring for hire in a labour-district otherwise than as a domestic servant:

"Dependent" means any woman (not being a labourer), any child, and any aged or incapacitated relative or friend accompanying any labourer with the consent of a contractor, sub-contractor, recruiter, local agent or garden-sandár:

"Vessel" includes anything made for the conveyance by water of human beings or property:

"Master" means the person for the time being in charge of a vessel:

"Writing" and "written" include "printing" and "lithography."

And all words defined in the Indian Contract Act, 1872, and used in this Act, shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them by that Act.

4. The Local Government may, with the previous sanction of the Governor General in Council, by notification in the local official Gazette, declare that any labour-district within the territories administered by such Government shall, from a day specified in such notification, cease to be subject to all the provisions or any specified provision of this Act; and from such day such labour-district shall cease to be subject to the provisions of this Act or to the provision so specified, as the case may be.

5. The Local Government may, with the previous sanction of the Governor General in Council, by notification in the local official Gazette, prohibit, from a day specified in such notification, all natives of India, or any specified class of such natives, from emigrating from the whole or any specified part of the territories under its administration, to any labour-district or to any specified portion of any such district.

The Local Government may with the like sanction in like manner vary or cancel any such notification.

6. The publication of a notification under section four or section five shall not affect any act done, offence committed or proceedings commenced before such publication.

7. Save as provided by section five, nothing in this Act shall be deemed to prohibit any native of India from emigrating to, or entering into a contract to labour in, a labour-district otherwise than under the provisions of this Act.

8. The Local Government may appoint, either by name or by virtue of their office, so many persons as it thinks necessary to be Superintendents of Emigration, Registering officers, Embarkation Agents, Debarcation Agents, Inspectors of Labourers, Assistant Inspectors of Labourers and Medical Inspectors under this Act respectively, and, with respect to any such officer, may, subject to the control of the Governor General in Council, declare the local area situate in the territories subject to its administration within which he shall exercise the powers and perform the duties conferred and imposed upon him by this Act or any rule made hereunder.

The Local Government may suspend or remove any persons whom it so appoints.

Every person so appointed shall be deemed a public servant within the meaning of the Indian Penal Code.

CHAPTER II.

LABOUR-CONTRACTS GENERALLY.

9. Every labour-contract shall be in writing, and shall be executed in duplicate on substantial paper. Every such contract shall specify—

- (a) the names of the labourer and his employer;
- (b) the term for which the labourer is to labour;

- (c) his monthly wages in money and the price at which rice is to be supplied to him ;
 (d) the labour-district in which, and, if the labourer so request, the estate on which, he is to labour.

Every such contract shall be in the form prescribed in the schedule hereto annexed.

No such contract shall be made for a term exceeding five years, commencing from the date of its execution ; or shall stipulate for a less rate of monthly wages for a completed daily task regulated in accordance with the provisions of this Act than five rupees in the case of a man and four rupees in the case of a woman for the first three years of the term of the contract, or six rupees in the case of a man and five rupees in the case of a woman for the fourth and fifth years of such term.

No contract made in contravention of, or not in accordance with, the provisions of this section shall be enforceable under this Act as a labour-contract against the labourer entering into it.

10. Unless the labour-contract specifies, the particular estate on which the

If contract does not specify estate, labourer to be deemed to have contracted to labour on any estate in charge of employer and situate in labour-district. labourer shall be deemed to have contracted to labour on any estate in charge of the employer for whom he has contracted to labour, and situate in the labour-district specified in the contract :

Provided that no labourer shall, without his own consent, be separated from his dependents (if any) or from any other labourer who is the wife, husband, son or daughter of such labourer.

11. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary

Persons of sixteen years of age may contract to emigrate. 1872, it shall be lawful for any person of the age of sixteen years or upwards to enter into a labour-contract.

CHAPTER III.

RECRUITING BY CONTRACTORS, SUB-CONTRACTORS AND RECRUITERS.

A.—Contractors and Sub-contractors.

12. Any Superintendent specially empowered in

Superintendent may license contractors. this behalf by the Local Government may grant to such persons as he thinks fit licenses to be contractors within the whole or any part of the local area for which such Superintendent has been appointed. He may also, on the application

Superintendent may license sub-contractors. of any contractor, grant to such persons as he thinks fit licenses to be sub-contractors on behalf of such contractor, within the whole or any part of the local area for which such contractor is licensed.

13. Every license to a contractor or sub-con-

Form of, and fee for, contractor's and sub-contractor's licenses. tractor shall be in such form, and subject to the payment of such fee, not exceeding, in the case of a contractor, one hundred rupees, and in the case of a sub-contractor, fifty rupees, as the Local Government may by rule prescribe.

14. No such license shall be granted for a longer

Period for which contractor's and sub-contractor's license to remain in force. period than one year from the date thereof, and, if the licensee fails to comply with any of the provisions of this Act or the rules made hereunder, or is guilty of any other misconduct, any such license may at any time be cancelled by the Superintendent who granted the same.

A contractor or sub-contractor may, within one month from the date of any order of a Superintendent cancelling his license, appeal against such order to the Local Government.

The order of the Local Government on such appeal shall be final.

15. Every contractor, in addition to the special

Duties of contractors. duties herein assigned to him, shall afford such information to the Superintendent and furnish him with such returns and reports as he may, subject to any rules which may be framed by the Local Government in this behalf, require.

16. A sub-contractor may be licensed to act on

Sub-contractor may be licensed to represent more than one contractor. behalf of more than one contractor : Provided that he obtains a separate license in the case of each contractor for whom he desires to act.

17. A contractor or sub-contractor may act as a

Contractor or sub-contractor may act as recruiter. recruiter, and shall, when so acting, be subject to all the provisions hereinafter contained relating to recruiters.

18. Every contractor shall be liable for the acts

Liability of contractors for sub-contractors' and recruiters' acts and defaults. and defaults as a sub-contractor or recruiter of any person licensed to be a sub-contractor or recruiter on his behalf, and shall be bound to make good all payments which, under this Act or any rule made hereunder, any such person is ordered to make.

The Superintendent may cancel the license of any contractor whenever the license of any person so licensed on his behalf is liable to be cancelled under this Act.

Nothing in this section shall be deemed to render a contractor criminally liable for any act or default on the part of any person licensed to be a sub-contractor or recruiter on his behalf.

19. Every contractor shall establish and main-

Contractor to establish depôts. Contractor to establish depôts. Local Government may direct, suitable depôts for the reception and lodging, previous to their despatch to the labour-districts, of labourers engaged by him or by sub-contractors or recruiters licensed to act on his behalf, and shall provide at his own expense all necessary food, clothing and medical treatment for such labourers during their stay at such depôts.

20. No such depôt shall be used for the recep-

Inspection and supervision of depôts. tion and lodging of labourers until it has been inspected and approved of by the Superintendent and the Medical Inspector. Every such depôt shall be under the supervision of the Superintendent, the Magistrate of the district or such other officer as

the Local Government may appoint in this behalf, and shall be open at all times to inspection by the Superintendent, the Magistrate of the district or such officer, and by the Medical Inspector.

Whenever the Superintendent considers that any such depôt is unhealthy, or has become unsuitable for the purpose for which it was established, he may by order in writing prohibit the using of such depôt for the reception and lodging of labourers.

21. In addition to the depôts hereinbefore provided for, the Local Government may establish a separate hospital-depôt for the reception of labourers suffering from any dangerously infectious or contagious disease.

22. Whenever any such hospital-depôt is established by any Local Government, such Government may require any contractor having a depôt in the neighbourhood of such hospital-depôt to contribute to the expense of the establishment and maintenance of such hospital-depôt such reasonable sum as it may direct. Such sum may be recovered as an arrear of land-revenue due from any contractor so required.

Every hospital-depôt so established shall be under the charge of a medical officer appointed by the Local Government. Any Medical Inspector may direct the transfer of any labourer from a depôt established within the local limits of his jurisdiction to a hospital-depôt established within such local limits.

B.—Recruiters.

23. Any Superintendent empowered in this behalf by the Local Government may, on the application of any contractor or of any sub-contractor acting on behalf of a contractor, grant to such persons as he thinks fit licenses to be recruiters on behalf of such contractor within the whole or any specified part of the local area for which such contractor has been licensed.

24. Every license to a recruiter shall be in such form and subject to the payment of such fee, not exceeding sixteen rupees, as the Local Government may by rule prescribe.

25. No such license shall be granted for a longer period than one year from the date thereof; and if the licensee fails to comply with any of the provisions of this Act or the rules made hereunder, or is guilty of any other misconduct, any such license may be cancelled by the Superintendent who granted the same.

26. Every recruiter shall hold a certificate in writing authorizing him to act as such and signed by the contractor or sub-contractor on whose application he was licensed.

27. No recruiter shall in any local area engage or attempt to engage any person as a labourer unless such recruiter's license bears the countersignature of a Magistrate having jurisdiction throughout such local area.

No such Magistrate shall countersign a recruiter's license unless and until he has satisfied himself by such enquiry as he thinks fit that the licensee is not by character or from any other cause unfitted to be a recruiter under this Act, that he holds the certificate mentioned in section twenty-six, and that sufficient and proper accommodation has been provided in a suitable place and is available for such labourers, or persons intending to become labourers, as may be collected by such recruiter pending their removal to a depôt.

28. Every Magistrate shall have, for the supervision, inspection and regulation of the place situate within the local limits of his jurisdiction where such accommodation is provided, the same powers as are by this Act conferred on the Superintendent in respect of depôts.

Any Magistrate of a district or division of a district may authorize any Magistrate subordinate to him, or any officer of police above the rank of sub-inspector, to visit and inspect such place at any time; and all recruiters or other persons in charge of such place shall afford to subordinate Magistrates and officers of police so authorized every facility for making such visits and inspections.

29. If any Magistrate who has countersigned a recruiter's license afterwards finds reason to think that the licensee is by character or from any other cause unfitted to be a recruiter under this Act, or that the accommodation provided under section twenty-seven has become insufficient or improper or has ceased to be available, or that the place in which it is provided has become unsuitable, he may require the licensee to produce his license and may cancel his countersignature thereon, or he may impound the license and send it for cancellation to the Superintendent who granted the same.

Every Magistrate refusing to countersign a recruiter's license or cancelling his countersignature thereon shall at once report such refusal or cancellation and the grounds thereof to the Superintendent who granted such license.

C.—Procedure before Arrival at Depôt.

30. Every recruiter who desires to engage any person as a labourer shall appear with such person before such medical officer as the Local Government may appoint to examine such persons within the local limits of the jurisdiction of the Magistrate by whom such recruiter's license was countersigned, or, if no such officer has been appointed, before such medical officer as the Registering officer, before whom such person is taken for registration as hereinafter provided, may direct.

The medical officer shall thereupon examine such person, and shall, if satisfied that he is in a fit state of health and able in point of physical condition to proceed to the labour-district in which he intends to labour, give him a certificate to that effect.

31. Every person who obtains a certificate under section thirty, together with any persons about to proceed to a labour-district as his dependents, shall thereupon be brought by the recruiter before the

Registering officer having jurisdiction within the local area for which such recruiter is licensed. The recruiter shall at the same time produce and show his license to such Registering officer.

32. The Registering officer shall thereupon inspect the certificate given under section thirty, and the license of the recruiter, and, if he finds that such certificate has been duly given and that the recruiter is duly licensed, shall then examine such person, with reference to his intended labour-contract, and explain the same to him.

If it appears that such person is competent to enter into such contract, and understands the same as regards the locality, period and nature of the service, and the rate of wages and the price at which rice is to be supplied to him, that the terms thereof are in accordance with law, that he has not been induced to agree to enter thereinto by any coercion, undue influence, fraud, misrepresentation or mistake, and that he is willing to fulfil the same, the Registering officer shall register in a book to be kept for the purpose such particulars regarding him and the persons (if any) whom he wishes to have registered as his dependents as the Local Government may by rule prescribe; and the labourer and his dependents (if any) shall thereupon be deemed to be registered under this Act.

33. The Registering officer shall furnish to the person so registered a certified copy of such particulars written on substantial paper.

34. Every officer registering any person under section thirty-two shall forthwith forward a certified copy of such particulars and the original certificate of the medical officer regarding him to the Superintendent having jurisdiction over the depôt to which such person is to proceed.

35. For every such person produced before a Registering officer for the purpose of being registered as a labourer the recruiter shall pay to the officer such fee not exceeding one rupee as the Local Government may by rule direct.

36. No recruiter shall remove or attempt to remove any person to a depôt, or induce or attempt to induce him to go to a depôt, or to leave the local limits of the jurisdiction of the Registering officer before whom such person ought to be brought under section thirty-one, or aid or attempt to aid him in going to a depôt, or leaving any such local limits, unless and until such person has been registered under section thirty-two.

37. Every labourer shall, after he has been registered under section thirty-two, be conveyed with all convenient despatch by the recruiter by whom he has been engaged to the depôt established by the contractor on whose behalf such recruiter has been licensed.

All labourers shall, while proceeding to the depôt, be accompanied throughout the journey either by the recruiter himself, or by a competent person deputed by him with the approval of the Registering officer by whom such labourers have been registered. The Registering officer shall give to the person so deputed a certificate under his signature, stating that he has been deputed for the journey to the depôt.

38. Every recruiter or person deputed by him as aforesaid shall, throughout the journey to the depôt, provide such labourer and his dependents (if any) with proper and sufficient food and lodging.

D.—Procedure at Contractors' Depôts.

39. Within twenty-four hours after a labourer arrives at a depôt, the contractor by whom such depôt is maintained, or the person in charge thereof, shall give to the Superintendent, within the local limits of whose jurisdiction such depôt is situate, a notice in writing of such arrival, which notice shall be in such form, and shall contain such particulars, as the Local Government may by rule prescribe.

40. The Medical Inspector shall, as soon as may be after the labourer arrives at the depôt, examine such labourer and his dependents (if any), to ascertain that they are in a fit state of health to undertake the journey to the labour-district to which they intend to proceed.

The Medical Inspector shall give a certificate to the Superintendent stating whether he is or is not satisfied of the fitness of the labourer and his dependents (if any) to undertake such journey.

41. If the Medical Inspector gives a certificate of fitness under section forty with respect to any labourer, and in the opinion of the Superintendent there is no valid reason why such labourer should not enter into a labour-contract, such labourer and the employer with whom he intends to contract, or the agent of such employer, shall, within thirty days after the arrival of the labourer at the depôt, execute a labour-contract in the presence of the Superintendent.

42. Before the labourer executes such contract, the Superintendent shall personally explain it to him, and shall, after the same has been executed by such labourer and his employer, or the agent of such employer, attest such contract and certify at the foot thereof that he has personally explained the same to the labourer.

An abstract of every such contract shall be entered in a register to be kept by the Superintendent for the purpose; and after such abstract has been so entered, one copy of the contract shall be given to the labourer and the other to his employer or his employer's agent.

Power to cancel contract and order payment of expenses home of labourer in certain cases.

43. In the following cases (namely) :—

(a) where the Medical Inspector, on making the examination required by section forty, or at any subsequent time during the stay at the depôt of any labourer, finds that such labourer is or has become unfit to undertake the journey to the labour-district to which he intends to proceed, and the Superintendent considers that such labourer has not dishonestly represented himself as fit to undertake such journey, or

(b) where the Superintendent finds that any such irregularity has occurred in the recruitment or treatment by the recruiter of any such labourer as makes it just to refuse to permit a labour-contract to be executed or to rescind such contract if executed, or

(c) where the contractor on whose behalf or by whom the labourer has been registered does not within thirty days after the arrival of such labourer at the depôt tender to him a labour-contract for execution under section forty-one, or the employer or his agent refuses or neglects to execute such contract as required by that section,

the Superintendent may cancel the labour-contract executed by such labourer, and in that case, or if no labour-contract has been executed, may order the contractor at once to pay such labourer such reasonable sum as is necessary to enable him to return to the place at which he was registered, and such further sum by way of compensation as the Superintendent thinks reasonable; and may take any other steps he thinks necessary for the conveyance of such labourer to such place.

44. Any labourer who from his state of health

is, in the opinion of the Medical Inspector, unfit to undertake such return-journey, shall be entitled to be fed, lodged, clothed and (if necessary) medically treated at the depôt at the expense of the contractor by whom such depôt is maintained, until he is reported by the Medical Inspector to be fit to undertake such return-journey.

If such contractor negligently or wilfully omits to provide food, lodging, clothing or medical treatment for such labourer, the Superintendent may order the contractor at once to pay such reasonable sum as is necessary to provide such food, lodging, clothing or medical treatment.

45. When an order is made under section forty-

three with reference to any labourer, any person registered as his dependent, or any labourer being the wife, husband, son or daughter of such labourer, may claim—

(a) to be conveyed at the expense of the contractor with such labourer to the place at which he was registered, and

(b) if such labourer is unable to travel, to be fed, lodged, clothed and (if necessary) medically treated in the depôt at the expense of the contractor until such labourer is able to travel;

and the Superintendent may include such expenses in an order made under section forty-three or section forty-four with respect to such labourer.

46. If, upon the arrival of any labourer at a

depôt, it appears that during the journey to the depôt such labourer or any person registered as his dependent has suffered any ill-treatment at the hands of the recruiter or person deputed by him to accompany such labourer, or that such recruiter or such person has failed to provide the labourer or any person registered as his dependent with proper and sufficient food and lodging, the Superintendent may order the contractor by whom such depôt is maintained to pay such labourer a reasonable sum by way of compensation.

47. If the Medical Inspector has reason to think

that any person registered as the dependent of a labourer is not in a fit state of health to undertake the journey to the labour-district to which the labourer whose dependent he is intends to proceed, the Medical Inspector shall so certify to the Superintendent to whom notice of the arrival of such labourer was given. The provisions of sections forty-three and forty-four shall thereupon apply to such dependent as if he were a labourer, and the Superintendent may make such orders regarding him as he may make under those sections with regard to a labourer.

48. The labourer to whom such dependent is

attached shall thereupon be entitled, if he or she so wishes, and if he or she be the husband, wife, son or daughter of such dependent, to receive from the contractor at whose depôt he or she arrived such reasonable sum as is necessary to enable him or her to return to the place where he or she was registered. If such labourer so return, then any other persons registered as his or her dependents, and any other labourer being the wife, husband, son or daughter of such labourer, shall also be entitled to receive a like sum from such contractor.

49. On failure of the contractor for twenty-four

hours to comply with an order of the Superintendent to pay any sum ordered to be paid under section forty-three, section forty-four, section forty-five, section forty-six, section forty-seven or section forty-eight, the Superintendent may pay the same to or on behalf of the labourer or dependent.

Every sum so paid shall be recoverable from the contractor with interest thereon at the rate of twelve per cent. per annum from the date of payment.

No further proof shall be required by any Court in any such case than that the Superintendent gave the contractor an order to pay such sum, and that the contractor for twenty-four hours failed to comply with such order.

50. All labourers despatched from a contractor's

depôt to a labour-district shall during their journey be accompanied by a person appointed by such contractor. Such person shall take with him a way-bill in such form and containing such particulars and instructions as the Local Government may prescribe.

He shall also present such way-bill at all such places and to all such officers as may be thereupon indicated; and shall carry out all instructions contained therein for his guidance.

CHAPTER IV.

RECRUITING BY GARDEN-SARDARS AND LOCAL AGENTS.

A.—Garden-sardars.

51. Any employer may grant to any person a certificate authorizing him, within such local area as may be specified in such certificate, to enter into labour-contracts with persons desirous of becoming labourers upon any estate of which such employer is in charge.

Employer may grant a certificate to garden-sardar.
Every person to whom such certificate has been granted is hereinafter called a garden-sardar.

If any labourer is granted a certificate under this section, his employment as a garden-sardar shall be deemed to be employment under his labour-contract.

52. Every such certificate shall be in such form and shall contain such particulars as the Local Government of the territories in which it is granted may prescribe in this behalf.

Form and particulars to be contained in such certificate.
Any employer granting a certificate to a garden-sardar may, before such certificate is accepted and signed as hereinafter provided, specify therein the name of the local agent (if any) to whom such garden-sardar is to report himself for orders, and the time within which he is to return to such employer, and any other instructions for his conduct that he may think proper.

53. Every such certificate shall be accepted and signed by the garden-sardar in the presence of the Inspector or Magistrate having jurisdiction over the place where the employer granting such certificate resides.

54. Such Inspector or Magistrate shall inquire into the facts stated in such certificate; and upon being satisfied of the truth of the statement shall, unless it appears to him that the person so accepting and signing such certificate is by character or from any other cause unfitted to be a garden-sardar, countersign and date such certificate.

55. On the application of the employer by whom any certificate so countersigned has been granted to a garden-sardar, such Inspector or Magistrate may, without requiring the appearance of the garden-sardar or making the inquiry prescribed by section fifty-four, countersign a fresh certificate to be granted by such employer to such garden-sardar in renewal of any existing certificate.

Provision for grant of fresh certificate.
Every such fresh certificate shall be forwarded by the Inspector or Magistrate countersigning it to the Magistrate of the district in which the garden-sardar to whom it is granted

is employed; and such sardar shall, on receiving notice from such Magistrate, appear before him and accept and sign such fresh certificate in his presence.

56. No certificate granted to a garden-sardar shall come into force unless and until it has been accepted and signed by the garden-sardar and countersigned by the Inspector or Magistrate, and no such certificate shall continue in force for a longer period than one year from the date of its countersignature.

57. Every garden-sardar shall provide sufficient accommodation to be and proper accommodation in a suitable place for such labourers, or persons intending to become labourers, as may be collected by him pending their removal to a labour-district.

The Magistrate of a district or of a division of a district, or a Magistrate subordinate to him, or an officer of police above the rank of sub-inspector authorized by him in this behalf, shall visit and inspect such accommodation; and all garden-sardars or other persons in charge of such places shall afford to such Magistrate, Subordinate Magistrate or officer of police every facility for making such visits and inspections.

In every such place the garden-sardar providing the accommodation shall make such sanitary arrangements as the Local Government may prescribe.

58. Whenever a garden-sardar contravenes any of the provisions of this Act or the rules made hereunder, or is guilty of any other misconduct, any Magistrate, Superintendent or Inspector, within the local limits of whose jurisdiction such garden-sardar is employed, may cancel his certificate.

B.—Local Agents.

59. Any Superintendent authorized in this behalf by the Local Government may, on the application of any employer, grant licenses to persons to be local agents for the purpose of representing such employer within such local area and for such period as such employer may desire: Provided that no contractor shall be licensed as a local agent.

60. A local agent may within such local area represent his employer in all matters connected with the engagement of labourers; and shall furnish such information and make such returns as the Local Government may by rule direct.

61. The Superintendent authorized as aforesaid may, on the application of any employer other than the employer on whose application a local agent has been licensed, make an order in writing permitting such agent to become the local agent of such additional employer within the local area for which he was licensed. The Superintendent making such order shall forthwith send a copy thereof to the Magistrate of the district in

which such agent resides; and such Magistrate shall, on the agent's application, insert in his license the name of such additional employer.

62. Any Superintendent authorized as aforesaid
 Local agent may be specially licensed to contract direct with labourers.
 may, with the consent of all the employers of a local agent, grant a special license to such agent, permitting him to engage on behalf of any employer specified in such special license, but without the intervention of a garden-sardár, persons to be labourers.

Every agent when so engaging persons to be labourers may, if he thinks fit, appear with them for registration before a Registering officer, and require them when so registered to execute a labour-contract, and in such case shall for the purposes of this Act be deemed to be a garden-sardár.

63. When any garden-sardár to whom a certificate has been granted under this Act by any employer commits any offence punishable under this Act, any local agent of such employer may prosecute the sardár for such offence.
 Local agent may prosecute garden-sardár.

64. The Magistrate of any district within which a local agent acts as such may by order cancel the license of such local agent if the employer so require, or if it is shown to the satisfaction of such Magistrate that such local agent has—
 On what grounds local agent's license may be cancelled.

(a) employed any contractor's recruiter to engage on his behalf persons to be labourers; or
 (b) permitted persons engaged as labourers by or on behalf of any contractor to use the accommodation provided for the persons engaged as labourers by any garden-sardár under such local agent's control; or

(c) allowed any garden-sardár under his control to transfer persons engaged as labourers by such sardár to contractors or to their recruiters or to any employer other than the employer by whom such sardár's certificate was granted; or

(d) himself taken over persons engaged as labourers by any garden-sardár with intent to despatch them to any employer other than the employer by whom such sardár's certificate was granted.

An appeal shall lie to the Local Government from any order made under this section, clause (a), (b), (c) or (d). Such appeal must be presented within three months next after the date of the order, and the decision of the Local Government thereon shall be final.

C.—Procedure to be followed by Garden-sardár.

65. Every garden-sardár who desires to engage
 Garden-sardár and labourer to appear before Registering officer for registration.
 any person as a labourer shall appear with such person, together with any persons about to proceed to a labour-district as dependents of such person, before the Registering officer having jurisdiction within the local area specified in the certificate of such sardár.

66. The Registering officer shall thereupon inspect the certificate of the
 Registration of persons engaged by garden-sardár.
 garden-sardár, and, if he finds that such certificate is in force, shall examine, with reference to the intended labour-contract, the person whom the sardár

so desires to engage and explain the contract to such person.

If it appears that such person is competent to enter into such contract, and understands the nature of the same, as regards the locality, period and nature of the service, and the rate of wages and the price at which rice is to be supplied to him, that the terms thereof are in accordance with law, that he has not been induced to agree to enter therein by any coercion, undue influence, fraud, misrepresentation or mistake, and that he is willing to fulfil the same, the Registering officer shall register in a book to be kept for the purpose such particulars regarding him and his dependents (if any) as the Local Government may by rule prescribe; and the labourer and his dependents (if any) shall thereupon be deemed to be registered under this Act.

67. If it appears to such officer that any such person, or any dependent of such person, is not in a fit state of health to undertake the journey to the labour-district to which he intends to proceed, the officer may, before registering any such person or dependent, if himself a medical man, medically examine such person or dependent, or, if not himself a medical man, send such person or dependent to a medical man for such examination. If upon such examination such person or dependent is declared unfit to undertake the journey to such place, the officer may refuse to register such person or dependent.
 Medical examination.

68. For every person appearing before a Registering officer for the purpose of being registered as a labourer, the garden-sardár who appears with him shall pay to the officer such fee not exceeding one rupee as the Local Government may direct.
 Fee to be paid for every labourer produced for registration.

69. When any person has been registered under section sixty-six as a labourer he shall, within fifteen days from the day on which he was so registered, execute a labour-contract with the employer with whom he intends to contract. Such contract shall be signed in the presence of the Registering officer by such person and, on behalf of the employer, by the garden-sardár who appears with such person before such officer. The officer shall satisfy himself that the contract is in accordance with any instructions specified in the certificate of the garden-sardár. If the officer is so satisfied, he shall, before the labourer signs the contract, personally explain it to him, and shall, after the same has been executed as aforesaid, attest such contract and certify at the foot thereof that he has personally explained the same to the labourer.
 Labour-contract to be executed.

An abstract of every such contract shall be entered in a register to be kept for the purpose by the Registering officer, and, of the two copies of the contract, one shall then be given to the labourer and the other to the garden-sardár or the local agent.

If any garden-sardár, without reasonable cause, refuses or neglects to execute a contract with a labourer as required by this section within fifteen days from the day on which he was so registered, the Registering officer may order such sardár to pay to the labourer such reasonable compensation, not exceeding twenty rupees, as such officer thinks fit.

70. If the employer of a garden-sardár has in the instructions specified in the certificate of the sardár directed that all labourers engaged by him shall before registration be examined by a competent medical man and certified by him to be in a fit state of health to undertake the journey to, and labour in, the labour-districts to which they intend to proceed, no Registering officer shall register as a labourer any person appearing before him with such sardár until such certificate from such medical officer as aforesaid has been produced and shown to him.

71. If the employer has in the instructions specified in the certificate of the garden-sardár directed that such examination shall be made by any medical officer in the service of Government, such officer making the examination shall be entitled to receive from the local agent or sardár such a fee not exceeding eight annas for each labourer so examined as the Local Government may fix.

72. Unless and until a person engaged as a labourer has been registered under section sixty-six no garden-sardár shall remove or attempt to remove him to a labour-district, or induce or attempt to induce him to go to a labour-district, or to leave the local area specified in the certificate of such sardár, or aid or attempt to aid him in proceeding to a labour-district, or in leaving any such local area.

73. A garden-sardár shall either himself accompany labourers engaged by him throughout their journey from the place in which the labour-contract was entered into to the labour-district wherein they have contracted to labour, or shall send with them some competent person appointed by him with the approval of the local agent of his employer; or, if his employer has no local agent, with the approval of the officer by whom such labourers were registered.

When the number of labourers (exclusive of dependents) proceeding on their journey to such labour-district is more than twenty, for every twenty labourers so in excess, or for any number of labourers less than twenty so in excess, one additional garden-sardár or person so appointed by him shall accompany the labourers so proceeding.

74. A garden-sardár may, subject to the instructions specified in his certificate, engage any number of persons as labourers; and, subject to the provisions of section seventy-three, any number of labourers may be despatched at the same time to the labour-districts.

75. Any garden-sardár may, with the previous consent in writing of the local agent of the employer by whom his certificate was granted, or, if such employer has no local agent, with the previous consent in writing of such employer, be appointed under section seventy-three as a competent person to accompany labourers other than those engaged by him.

76. Every garden-sardár or person appointed by him as aforesaid who accompanies labourers to the labour-districts shall present to the officer by whom such labourers have been registered a way-bill in such form and containing such particulars and instructions as the Local Government may prescribe. He shall also present such way-bill at all such places and to all such officers as may be thereupon indicated; and shall carry out all instructions contained therein for his guidance.

77. Every garden-sardár or person appointed by him as aforesaid who accompanies labourers to the labour-districts shall provide such labourers and their dependents (if any) with proper and sufficient food and lodging throughout the journey.

78. If it appears to any Magistrate, on the complaint of any such labourer at any place on the journey, that he or any person registered as his dependent has suffered any ill-treatment during the journey at the hands of the garden-sardár or person appointed by him accompanying such labourer, or that such sardár or person has failed to provide such labourer or any of his dependents with proper and sufficient food and lodging, or has wilfully abandoned such labourer or any of his dependents, such Magistrate may either order the sardár or person so appointed to pay to such labourer a reasonable sum by way of compensation, or may cancel the labour-contract entered into by such labourer and order such sardár or person to pay to such labourer such reasonable sum as is necessary to enable him with his dependents (if any) to return to the place at which he was registered.

79. On failure for twenty-four hours by any garden-sardár or person appointed by him as aforesaid to comply with an order under section seventy-eight to pay any sum, the Magistrate may pay the same to or on behalf of such labourer.

Every sum so paid shall be recoverable from the employer by whom the certificate of such garden-sardár was granted, or from the local agent of such employer, with interest thereon at the rate of twelve per centum per annum from the date of payment.

No further proof shall be required by any Court in any such case than that the Magistrate gave such garden-sardár or person an order to pay such sum and that such garden-sardár or person for twenty-four hours failed to comply with such order.

80. Any Magistrate or any Embarkation Agent may, if himself a medical man, examine, and if not himself a medical man, send for examination by a medical man, any labourer or dependent who, while on the journey to the district to which he intends to proceed, appears to such Magistrate or Agent not to be in a fit state of health to proceed thereto.

81. If such labourer or dependant is on such examination declared not to be in a fit state of health to undertake the journey to the labour-district to which he intends to proceed, the Magistrate or Embarkation Agent may order him to be detained at such place as he thinks fit until the labourer or dependant is in a fit state of health to undertake such journey, when he shall either be forwarded to such district or sent back to the place where he was registered, according as the garden-sardár or person appointed by him accompanying such labourer or dependant, or the employer by whom the certificate of such sardár was granted, or his local agent, may direct.

While any labourer or dependant is so detained he shall be entitled to be fed, lodged, clothed and (if necessary) medically treated at the cost of the employer with whom such labourer or the labourer to whom such dependant is attached has contracted to labour.

82. When an order under section eighty-one has been made with reference to any labourer, any person registered as his dependant and any labourer being the wife or husband of such labourer, shall be entitled,

(a) until such labourer is in a fit state of health to undertake such journey, to be fed, lodged, clothed and (if necessary) medically treated at the place where such labourer is detained and at the cost of the employer with whom such labourer has contracted to labour, and,

(b) if such labourer is sent back to the place where he was registered, to be sent back to such place.

When any such order has been made with reference to any dependant, the labourer to whom he is attached shall thereupon, until such dependant is in a fit state of health to undertake the journey to the labour-district, be entitled, if the labourer so wishes, and, if he or she be the husband, wife, son or daughter of such dependant, to be fed, lodged, clothed and (if necessary) medically treated at the place where such dependant is detained and at the cost of the employer with whom such labourer has contracted to labour; and if such dependant is sent back to the place where he was registered, such labourer shall, if he or she so wishes, and if he or she be the husband, wife, son or daughter of such dependant, be sent back to such place.

If such labourer is entitled and claims to be so fed, lodged, clothed and (if necessary) medically treated, or to be so sent back, any person registered as his or her dependant and any other labourer being the wife or husband of such labourer, shall be entitled, as the case may be,

(a) to be fed, lodged, clothed and (if necessary) medically treated at the place where such dependant is detained and at the cost of such employer until such dependant is in a fit state of health to undertake the journey to the labour-district, or

(b) to be sent back to the place where he or she was registered.

83. If the garden-sardár or person appointed by him accompanying any labourer or dependant fails to provide such labourer or dependant with food, lodging, clothing and medical treatment, or to send him back as required by

section eighty-one or section eighty-two, the Magistrate or Embarkation Agent may order such sardár or person to pay such sum as is necessary to provide such food, lodging, clothing and medical treatment, or to defray the cost of the return-journey of such labourer or dependant, as the case may be, to the place where he was registered; and, on failure for twenty-four hours of such sardár or person to comply with such order, he may pay the sum specified in the order to or on behalf of such labourer or dependant.

The provisions of section seventy-nine shall, *mutatis mutandis*, apply to the recovery of sums paid by the Magistrate or Embarkation Agent under this section.

84. If any labourer whose labour-contract has been executed by a garden-sardár on behalf of his employer is brought to Calcutta on his way to the district in which he has contracted to labour, any person empowered to act as the agent or representative of such employer may require such labourer to appear before the Superintendent for the cancellation of such contract. If such reasonable sum as is necessary to enable such labourer and his dependants (if any) to return to the place at which he was registered be paid to such labourer in his presence, the Superintendent may declare the contract cancelled, and in that case shall make an endorsement to that effect on the labourer's copy of the contract, and attest it with his signature.

85. When the Superintendent declares the labour-contract of any labourer to be cancelled, any other labourer who is the wife, husband, father, mother, son or daughter of such labourer, and who may have entered into a labour-contract at the same place with the same employer, may claim to have her or his labour-contract cancelled at the same time. On such claim being made, the Superintendent shall declare the labour-contract of the claimant to be cancelled, and shall order the agent or representative of the claimant's employer to pay to the claimant such reasonable sum as is necessary to enable him and his dependants (if any) to return to the place at which he was registered.

On failure for twenty-four hours of the agent or representative to comply with such order, the Superintendent may pay the sum specified in the order to or on behalf of the claimant; and the provisions of section seventy-nine shall, *mutatis mutandis*, apply to the recovery of any sum so paid.

CHAPTER V.

TRANSPORT BY RIVER.

A.—Passenger Vessels.

86. Nothing in this chapter shall apply to the transport by sea to transport by sea of natives of India to the labour-districts of Chittagong and the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

87. No master shall receive more than twenty passengers being natives of India on board his vessel for the purpose of transporting them to a labour-district unless a license to

carry passengers in such vessel has been granted to him by an Embarkation Agent duly empowered in that behalf by the Local Government.

The Local Government may, by notification in Power to exempt the official Gazette, exempt vessels. from the provisions of this section any vessel or class of vessels.

88. The master or owner of any vessel who desires to obtain a license under this Act to carry passengers in such vessel shall make a written application for a license to an Embarkation Agent empowered as aforesaid.

Every such application shall state such particulars respecting the vessel as the Local Government may by rule prescribe.

89. If such Embarkation Agent is of opinion that the vessel is in all respects suitable for carrying passengers being natives of India to a labour-district, he shall give to the master of the vessel a license to carry passengers therein, specifying the number of passengers being natives of India which may be received on board.

90. Such fee, not exceeding sixteen rupees, as the Local Government may with reference to the size of such vessel by rule direct shall be paid for every such license. No such license shall be in force for more than one voyage:

Provided that the Embarkation Agent may, from time to time, with the previous sanction of the Local Government, grant a license to the master of any vessel for any term not exceeding one year, on payment of such fee not exceeding one hundred rupees, and on such conditions, as the Local Government may by rule direct.

91. Any Embarkation Agent may, in accordance with such rules as the Local Government may prescribe in this behalf, direct by order in writing that, on any particular voyage or part of a voyage, any master licensed hereunder shall not receive on board his vessel more than a specified number of passengers being natives of India, which number shall be less than the number specified in the license granted to such master.

92. In computing the number of persons on board of any vessel, two children under the age of ten years shall for the purposes of this Act be reckoned as one person only.

93. Every master to whom a license is granted hereunder shall keep such lists, submit such returns and make such reports in regard to the passengers carried in his vessel as the Local Government may by rule prescribe.

94. Every such master shall have on board his vessel carrying labourers and their dependents such supplies of provisions and clothing, and such medical and other officers, cooks and attendants, as the Local Government may by rule prescribe.

95. No medical officer shall be appointed to any vessel in respect of which a license is granted hereunder unless he holds a license granted by such authority as the Local Government may appoint in that behalf; and any medical officer so licensed shall be forthwith removed from his appointment on the requisition of any officer empowered by the Local Government to make such requisition.

B.—Departure of Passenger Vessels and Procedure during Voyage.

96. Whenever it appears to any Embarkation Agent that the departure of any vessel in respect of which a license is granted hereunder is unduly delayed beyond the date fixed by order of a Superintendent or the Local Government, or notified by advertisement in the public press, for such departure, he may order the master of such vessel to proceed on his voyage at once.

97. No master licensed hereunder shall proceed on a voyage with his vessel carrying labourers until he has received from the Embarkation Agent the way-bills relating to all labourers on board. The Embarkation Agent and the master of the vessel shall together personally ascertain that the number of labourers on board corresponds with the number entered in such way-bills.

The Embarkation Agent shall send a copy of such way-bills to the Magistrate of the labour-district to which such labourers are proceeding.

98. No such master shall cause or permit any labourer finally to leave his vessel at any place other than that named in the way-bill as the destination of such labourer:

Provided that this section shall not be deemed to prevent the master of any vessel from permitting such labourers to disembark at any place or places on the voyage so long as such disembarkation is not intended or known to be likely to be final; nor to prevent the final disembarkation of any such labourers, or the transfer of such labourers with their dependents to any other vessel in case of accident or other unavoidable necessity. Such accident or necessity shall be forthwith reported by the master to the Embarkation Agent by whom he was licensed, and to the nearest Magistrate in the district within which such accident has occurred or necessity has arisen.

99. Every master licensed hereunder shall stop his vessel carrying passengers being natives of India at such places, being places where a Magistrate is stationed, and shall, unless the Magistrate permits him to depart earlier, remain at each such place for such time, not exceeding six hours of daylight, as the Local Government may direct. Such master shall, on arriving at any such place, immediately report to the Magistrate the number of the crew and other persons on board, the general state of their health, and the number of deaths (if any) which have occurred among the persons who embarked on board his vessel.

100. A Magistrate may, while any vessel in respect of which a license is granted hereunder is within the local limits of his jurisdiction, go on board such vessel and inspect the vessel and all persons being natives of India on board. The master and officers of such vessel shall afford to such Magistrate every facility for such inspection, and give him all such information as he may reasonably require respecting the labourers or other persons on board, the deaths, if any, which may have occurred on board, and any other facts which may affect the health of the passengers.

101. At any time while any such vessel is within the local limits of his jurisdiction, the Magistrate may regulate the communication between such vessel and the land, and may prohibit all persons from leaving such vessel and all persons on land from proceeding on board her.

102. Any Magistrate may, if he has reason to believe that any passengers being natives of India on board any such vessel within the local limits of his jurisdiction are, or are likely to be, affected with any dangerously infectious or contagious disease, detain such vessel and require the civil medical officer of the district or other qualified medical officer to inspect such passengers and to report on their health, stating whether any or what measures are requisite for the removal or prevention of such disease. After the receipt of such report, the Magistrate may order any such passenger suffering from any such disease to be disembarked and detained for medical treatment. If in the opinion of the inspecting medical officer it is dangerous to the health of the general body of the passengers to allow such vessel to proceed until measures have been taken to cleanse and disinfect her, the Magistrate may detain the vessel for a further period, not exceeding three days, for the purpose of carrying out such measures.

103. If, on receiving a report of a medical officer, it appears to a Magistrate that any labourer or any dependent of any labourer, though not suffering from any such disease as last aforesaid, is not in a fit state of health to proceed to the labour-district in which such labourer has contracted to labour, he may order such labourer or dependent to be detained, and shall cause all necessary arrangements to be made for the accommodation, support and medical treatment of the labourer or dependent so detained.

104. All expenses incurred under section one hundred and three by a Magistrate in respect of any labourer or dependent so detained shall be recoverable from the employer of such labourer together with interest at six per centum per annum.

105. Whenever it appears to a Magistrate making an inspection of any vessel in respect of which a license is granted hereunder that the number of passengers on board being natives of India is larger than the number specified in such license or than the number specified in an order of an Embarkation Agent made under section ninety-one, he may remove the excess number and detain them until another opportunity of forwarding them to their destination is found. The necessary expense of maintaining such passengers while so detained and of forwarding them to their destination shall be paid by such Magistrate, and shall be recoverable from the master or owner of such vessel.

106. Whenever, on making an inspection of any vessel in respect of which a license is granted hereunder, a Magistrate finds that any of the provisions of this Act or of any rule of the Local Government made hereunder have not been complied with in respect of such vessel, he shall report the same to the Embarkation Agent by whom such license was granted; and, if he considers it necessary to do so, he may detain the vessel until such provisions have been so complied with as to make it possible for the voyage to be further prosecuted with safety and reasonable comfort to the emigrants.

107. The Local Government may make rules regulating disembarkation and other matters relating—

(a) the disembarkation of labourers and their dependents, and their inspection and accommodation on arrival at their destination;

(b) the detention of such labourers or dependents at debarkation-depôts;

(c) the forwarding of labourers to their destination and the closing and return of way-bills by employers.

All expenses incurred by any Magistrate or Embarkation Agent in accordance with such rules shall be recoverable from the employers of such labourers together with interest at the rate of twelve per centum per annum.

108. The Magistrate of a district, or of a division of a district, may from time to time authorize any subordinate Magistrate, medical officer or officer of police above the rank of sub-inspector to exercise the powers and authorities conferred, and to perform the duties imposed, on a Magistrate under sections ninety-nine to one hundred and six, both inclusive.

CHAPTER VI.

PROVISIONS AS TO THE LABOUR-DISTRICTS.

A.—Annual Rate payable by Employers.

109. Every employer shall, on the first day of January and the first day of July in each year, pay in respect of each labourer then in his employ such rate, not exceeding an annual sum of one rupee, as the Local Government may by notification in the official Gazette direct.

110. If any employer fails, for the space of one month after the receipt of a notice in such form and served in such manner as the Local Government may prescribe, to pay any sum due

by him under the provisions of the last preceding section, such sum shall be recoverable as if it were an arrear of land-revenue due from such employer.

B.—Local Labour-contracts.

111. Notwithstanding anything hereinbefore contained, any employer may enter into a labour-contract with any native of India within a labour-district. When any employer has executed any such contract with any such native within a labour-district, he shall, within one month from the date of the execution of such contract, forward it in duplicate to the Inspector within the local limits of whose jurisdiction such employer resides. On receipt of the contract so forwarded, the Inspector shall enter an abstract thereof in a register to be kept by him for the purpose, and shall then give one copy of the contract to the labourer and the other copy to his employer.

Registration of such contracts.

When, for the first time after the registration of any such contract with a labourer, the Inspector visits the estate on which such labourer is employed, the employer shall cause such labourer to appear before the Inspector, and such labourer may thereupon apply to the Inspector to cancel the contract; and, if he shows cause sufficient in the opinion of the Inspector to justify the cancellation, the Inspector may cancel the contract, and shall thereupon endorse on the labourer's copy of the contract, or if such copy be not forthcoming, shall give to the labourer, a certificate of such cancellation.

112. Any employer desirous of entering into a labour-contract with any native of India in a labour-district may, instead of executing such contract under section one hundred and eleven, appear either in person or by agent with such native before the Inspector or Magistrate within the local limits of whose jurisdiction such employer resides.

Such Inspector or Magistrate shall thereupon explain the labour-contract to such native, and shall, if satisfied that he is competent to enter into and understands the same, call upon him and the employer or his agent to execute it in his presence; and, if they execute it, shall attest such execution with his signature.

An abstract of every such labour-contract shall be entered in a register to be kept by the Inspector or Magistrate for the purpose; and one copy of such contract shall then be given to the labourer and the other copy to his employer or his agent.

In respect of every labour-contract an abstract whereof is registered under section one hundred and eleven or under this section, the employer who executes such contract in person or by agent shall pay to the Inspector or Magistrate such fee, not exceeding one rupee, as the Local Government may direct.

C.—Employers' Returns and Magistrates' Inspections.

113. Every employer shall keep such registers of all labourers and other persons employed on the estate of which he is in charge, in such form, and shall make to the Inspector within the local limits of whose jurisdiction such

estate is situate such periodical returns in writing, as the Local Government may by rule prescribe. The Inspector may examine such registers and muster all labourers and other persons employed on any estate within such local limits, and may verify the accuracy of the entries in such registers, or in any prescribed periodical return.

114. Any Inspector or Magistrate, or any person authorized by either of them in writing in this behalf, may at any time enter and inspect all lands and houses wholly or partially used by or for labourers, or by or for any other natives of India employed on any estate who are not natives of the labour-district in which such estate is situate, and may require that any labourer or other such native shall be brought before him, and that a copy of the labour-contract of any labourer shall be produced, and may make any inquiries which he thinks proper touching the condition or treatment of any labourer or other such native.

D.—Regulation of Labour.

115. Every employer shall prepare a schedule specifying the daily task to be executed by each labourer employed on the estate of which such employer is in charge, and may from time to time alter any schedule so prepared.

One copy of every such schedule shall be filed in a book which shall be open to the examination of the Inspector, and another copy thereof in the Bengali language shall be stuck up in some conspicuous place accessible to the labourers to whom such schedule relates.

The minimum payment for each daily task shall be the quotient resulting from dividing the monthly wage of the labourer concerned by the whole number of days in the current month.

116. No labourer shall be bound to labour more than six days in one week, or more than six consecutive hours, or more than nine hours in any one day. Every labourer shall, for one day in each week, receive wages as for a full task done, without being required to labour for the same. The employer shall, on six days in each week, provide for each labourer work sufficient to enable him to earn at least his minimum daily wage. Failing such due provision of work, the labourer shall, if he can show that he was able and willing to labour for the same, be entitled to claim his minimum daily wage.

117. If the Inspector considers that any schedule of daily tasks, or any part thereof, is unreasonable, he may by order in writing direct that a reduction specified in such order be made of such tasks. The employer shall at once make such reduction, but may, if dissatisfied with the Inspector's order, by notice in writing require the Inspector to refer the schedule to a committee for consideration. Such committee shall consist—

- (a) of the Inspector,
- (b) of some person to be nominated by the employer whose schedule is to be considered, and
- (c) if practicable, of a medical officer.

Where the employer fails to nominate a person within seven days after being thereunto requested in writing by the Inspector, the Inspector, instead of the employer so failing, may nominate a person.

When the committee consists only of the Inspector or and of a person nominated by the employer or Inspector, the Inspector shall have the casting vote.

118. If such committee, or a majority thereof, is of opinion that the daily tasks specified in such schedule or any of them are unreasonable, they shall modify and reduce them in such manner as they think fit. The employer shall thereupon alter his schedule accordingly, and copies of the schedule so altered shall be filed and stuck up in the manner directed in section one hundred and fifteen, and shall, as between him and the labourers concerned, take the place of the former schedule.

119. Notwithstanding anything contained in any such schedule, the Inspector may order that any specified labourer, who is in his opinion unable from weakness to earn by his labour the sum of one anna and a half per diem, according to the said schedule, shall receive, in lieu of such actual earnings, subsistence-allowance at the rate of one anna and a half per diem, or diet on a scale to be approved by such Inspector. Such subsistence-allowance shall be recoverable as if it were an arrear of wages.

E.—Incapacity for Labour.

120. The Inspector within the local limits of whose jurisdiction any labourer is employed may release such labourer, for such period as he thinks fit, from performing his labour-contract, if he be, in the judgment of such Inspector, temporarily unfitted for the performance thereof by reason of sickness, or other sufficient cause.

Every such release shall be endorsed by the Inspector on the labour-contract, and the time during which the release continues shall not be reckoned as part of the term for which the labourer is bound to serve. Every such labourer shall, during such release, receive such subsistence-allowance from his employer as the Inspector thinks sufficient.

121. If any labourer is compelled to absent himself from work on account of sickness, he shall receive from his employer for each day of such absence subsistence-allowance of one anna and a half, or, if in hospital, sick diet on a scale to be approved by the Inspector.

If such absence exceeds the total number of thirty days in any one year, and the employer, as soon as such number is exceeded, gives the labourer a notice in writing to that effect, each day of absence in excess of such number shall be added to the term of the labour-contract, unless the labourer refunds to the employer the sum of one anna and a half for each day so in excess. The Inspector shall from time to time, when visiting the estate, endorse on the labourer's labour-contract, after such enquiry as may be necessary, the number of days so added to the term thereof.

122. If, in the opinion of the Inspector, any labourer is permanently incapacitated for the performance of his labour-contract or any material part thereof, the Inspector shall

certify to that effect in writing and deliver such certificate to the employer of such labourer or his agent, and from the date of such certificate the labour-contract of such labourer shall wholly determine. Every labourer whose labour-contract so determines shall be entitled to receive from his employer such sum, not exceeding three months' wages, as the Inspector may award.

Such sum and any subsistence-allowance mentioned in sections one hundred and twenty and one hundred and twenty-one shall be recoverable as if they were arrears of wages.

F.—Accommodation for Labourers.

123. Every employer shall be bound to provide for the labourers employed on the estate of which he is in charge such house accommodation, water-supply and sanitary arrangements as the Local Government may by rule direct.

124. When the food-grain commonly used by any class of labourers is not procurable by such labourers at reasonable prices in the local markets near the estate on which such labourers are employed, the employer of such labourers shall be bound to supply them with such grain at a reasonable price. The Local Government may by notification in the official Gazette determine, either generally or for each district or part of a district, what shall for the purposes of this section be deemed to be a reasonable price.

125. Subject to any rules which may be made by the Local Government in this behalf, any Inspector may, by order in writing,

(a) direct that, on any specified estate within the local limits of his jurisdiction, all the labourers or any specified class of labourers shall be furnished by their employer with rations, cooked or uncooked, on such scale, for such period not exceeding three months from the date of their arrival on the estate, as may be specified in such order;

(b) exempt any specified labourer from the effect of any such general order if he is satisfied that such labourer is able to earn a full wage and desires to provide himself with proper and sufficient food;

(c) direct that any specified labourer shall be furnished with rations for any term not exceeding six months, and renew any such order for a like term.

The cost of each labourer's ration furnished to him in accordance with any order made under this section shall be calculated at current rates as determined by the Inspector, and shall be deducted from any wages earned by the labourer during the period for which such order is in force.

126. If any employer does not, in the opinion of the Inspector, provide such hospital-accommodation in a suitable place available to the labourers employed upon the estate of which he is in charge, or does not make such provision for the medical treatment of such labourers, as the Local Government may direct, the Local Government may require such employer to contribute to the support of a central hospital to be established, or to the pay of a medical officer to be appointed,

for the medical treatment of such labourers, such sum, proportionate to the number of labourers so employed, as it thinks fit.

127. Any Inspector or Assistant Inspector who

Inquiry whether employer has failed to provide accommodation, &c., as required by the rules. is himself a Magistrate may, with respect to any estate situate within the local limits of his jurisdiction, institute

an inquiry whether the employer in charge of such estate has provided for his labourers house-accommodation, water-supply, sanitary arrangements, food-grains and rations in accordance with the rules prescribed by the Local Government. At the instance of any Inspector or Assistant Inspector a similar inquiry may be made by a Magistrate. Every such inquiry shall be held at some place on the estate to which it relates, or within ten miles of such estate, and shall be conducted and dealt with as if it were an inquiry of a Magistrate under the Code of Criminal Procedure.

G.—Localities unfit for the Residence of Labourers.

128. If in the opinion of the Inspector any

Inspector to report. estate or portion of an estate situate within the local limits of his jurisdiction is at any time, by reason of climate, situation or condition, unfit for the residence of labourers, or of any particular class of labourers, he shall give notice in writing of such opinion to the Magistrate of the district; and

Magistrate to summon Committee. such Magistrate shall forthwith, by order in writing, summon a Committee to inquire into the matter.

Such Committee shall consist of the Magistrate, the Inspector, the medical officer of the district and one or more employers of labourers, when such employers are available.

If the Magistrate is unable to procure the service on such Committee of any employer of labourers, he may, with the previous sanction of the Commissioner of the division, appoint one or more persons qualified to serve on such Committee.

129. Such Committee shall as soon as may be

Proceedings of Committee. inquire into the healthiness of the estate or portion to which the order appointing the Committee relates, and shall hear and record such information on the subject as the owner of such estate or portion, or the employer in charge thereof or the Inspector, may desire to place before it.

If such Committee or the majority thereof is of opinion that such estate or portion, or any part of such estate or portion, is unfit for the residence of labourers generally, or of any particular class of labourers, it shall record a finding to that effect.

When such finding has been recorded, no labourer, or no labourer of the particular class to which such finding relates, as the case may be, shall be bound by any labour-contract to labour on the estate or portion, or part of such estate or portion, as the case may be, which is found unfit for the residence of such labourers.

When any labourer is released under this section from the performance of a labour-contract to labour on any estate, he shall be bound

to labour on any other estate belonging to his employer and situate in the same labour-district, or where the finding relates only to a portion or part of an estate, on any other portion or part of the same estate.

130. Whenever it appears to the Local Govern-

Local Government how to proceed if mortality in past year exceeds seven per cent., or if the average mortality for three years exceeds seven per cent. ment that the number of labourers employed on an estate who have died thereon, or on any portion thereof, during the last preceding

twelve months, or that the average annual number of labourers employed on an estate who have died thereon or on any portion thereof during the last preceding three years, bears a larger proportion to the whole number of labourers employed thereon during each period of twelve months or three years, as the case may be, than seven per centum, the Local Government may direct the civil medical officer of the district or

Matters to be enquired into. other qualified medical officer to inquire into and report on the following matters:—

(a) the cause or causes of such mortality;

(b) the want (if any) of due care or precaution, and of the adoption of proper and available sanitary measures, on the part of the owner of such estate or portion thereof, or the employer in charge of such estate or portion, causing or contributing to such mortality;

(c) the fitness or otherwise of such estate or portion for the residence of labourers.

131. Such medical officer shall, as soon as may

Medical officer to report. be, inquire into such matters, and shall hear and record such information relating thereto

as the owner of such estate or portion, or the employer in charge of the same, or the Inspector, may place before him, and shall visit and inspect such estate or portion, and shall make a report expressing the reasons for his opinion, and transmit the same to the Local Government together with the information so recorded and the notes of his inspection of such estate or portion.

132. If the Local Government, after personal

Local Government may declare estate unfit for residence. and consideration of the said report, information and notes, is of opinion that such

mortality was caused by the want, on the part of the owner of such estate or portion, or the employer in charge of the same, of due care or precaution, or of the adoption of proper and available sanitary measures, and that such estate or portion is thereby rendered unfit for the residence of labourers, it may declare in writing that such estate or portion is unfit

Effect of declaration. for the residence of labourers. Such declaration of the

Local Government shall have the same effect as the finding of a Committee under section one hundred and twenty-nine.

133. If it at any time appears to the Inspect-

Power to certify fitness of estate or portion found or declared to be unfit. or that any estate or portion thereof, or any part of such portion, found under

section one hundred and twenty-nine, or declared under section one hundred and thirty-two, to be unfit for the residence of labourers, or any particular class of labourers, has become fit for the residence of such labourers or

such particular class of labourers, as the case may be: he shall, with the previous sanction of the Magistrate of the district in which such estate, portion or part is situate, give a certificate to that effect signed by him. Thereupon all labourers who have been released under section one hundred and twenty-nine or section one hundred and thirty-two from the performance of a contract to labour on such estate, portion or part, shall again be bound to labour on the estate, portion or part, as the case may be, to which the certificate relates.

H.—Complaints made by Labourers.

134. If any labourer states to his employer, or

If labourer wishes to complain of personal ill-usage or breach of Act, employer to send him to Inspector or Magistrate.

any person acting on behalf of his employer, that he desires to make a complaint to the Inspector or to any Magistrate of personal ill-usage or breach, on the part of his employer or such person, of any provisions of this Act or of any rule of the Local Government made hereunder, the person to whom such statement is made shall forthwith send such labourer to the Inspector or Magistrate within the local limits of whose jurisdiction the estate wherein he is employed is situate: Provided that, if more than ten labourers at any one time so state their desire to make such a complaint, the person to whom the statement is made may, instead of sending such labourers to such Inspector or Magistrate, give him notice in writing of their complaint.

135. Whenever any such complaint is made

Inspector or Magistrate, how to proceed if complaint is made to him.

to an Inspector or Magistrate, or whenever any Inspector or Magistrate receives notice in writing of any such complaint, or if he has reason to believe that there is ground for a complaint, he shall, if he has other reasonable grounds for believing that any employer or person acting on his behalf has personally ill-used, or committed any breach mentioned in section one hundred and thirty-four in respect of, any labourer, such Inspector or Magistrate shall, as soon as may be, proceed to some place not more than ten miles from the principal place of business of such employer situate within the local limits of his jurisdiction, and inquire into the matter complained of:

Provided that, if the place in which an Inspector or Magistrate has reasonable grounds for believing that such ill-usage or breach has been committed is situate beyond the local limits of his jurisdiction, he shall, instead of inquiring into the matter himself, forthwith send information thereon in writing to the Inspector or Magistrate within the local limits of whose jurisdiction such ill-usage or breach has been committed.

For the purposes of an inquiry under this section, the Inspector or Magistrate may summon and examine any person as a witness.

136. If, upon such inquiry made on the complaint of a labourer, the Inspector or Magistrate is of opinion that the complaint is untrue or frivolous, he shall dismiss the complaint; and in such case shall endorse on the employer's copy of the complainant's labour-contract the number of days during which the complainant has been absent from work in consequence of the inquiry, and the number of days

so endorsed shall be added to the period for which the complainant contracted to labour.

Every such endorsement shall be conclusive evidence that the complainant has absented himself from his labour voluntarily and without reasonable cause during the number of days so endorsed.

137. When any complaint is dismissed under

Award of compensation to employer. section one hundred and thirty-six, the Inspector or Magistrate may award to the employer any reasonable compensation on account of any expense incurred by him in connection with such complaint, and shall endorse the amount of such compensation on the complainant's copy of the labour-contract. The complainant shall be bound to pay the amount so awarded; and in default of such payment his labour-contract shall not be deemed to have determined until he has worked off such amount at the rate of one day's labour for each four annas of such amount.

138. If, upon such inquiry by a Magistrate

If on inquiry there is sufficient ground for proceeding. or by an Inspector who is a Magistrate, such Magistrate or Inspector is of opinion that there is sufficient ground for proceeding with the case, he shall dispose of the same according to law. If the Inspector is not a Magistrate and is of such opinion, he shall without delay send the complainant and his witnesses (if any) to the nearest Magistrate; and such Magistrate shall thereupon dispose of the case according to law.

139. If, upon the complaint of any labourer, it is

Recovery of arrears of wages. proved to the satisfaction of a Magistrate that the wages of such labourer are in arrear for two months, or if the wages of any person whose labour-contract has determined are proved to the satisfaction of a Magistrate to have been withheld for any period after such determination, the Magistrate may award to such labourer or person the amount which appears to be then due to him; and also, by way of compensation, such further sum, not exceeding that amount, as to such Magistrate seems just; and, in case of default in payment of the amount so awarded, the Magistrate shall levy such amount by distress and sale of any moveable property belonging to the employer of such labourer or person.

140. Whenever it is proved to the satisfaction of a Magistrate—

(a) that any employer, or any person placed by him in authority over any labourer, has been convicted of any offence causing injury to the person, or loss or damage to the property, of such labourer and under the Code of Criminal Procedure triable exclusively by the Court of Session, or

(b) that any employer, or other person as aforesaid, has been twice convicted of any such offence against such labourer and under the said Code triable by a Magistrate, or

(c) that the wages of any labourer are in arrear or if wages are in arrear for more than four months, to an amount exceeding the whole of such labourer's wages for four months, or

(d) that any labourer has been compelled by his employer or by any person placed by his employer

to work for a longer period than that specified in his labour-contract, or

(e) that any labourer has been compelled by his employer or by any person placed by his employer

to work for a longer period than that specified in his labour-contract, or

(f) that any labourer has been compelled by his employer or by any person placed by his employer

to work for a longer period than that specified in his labour-contract, or

(g) that any labourer has been compelled by his employer or by any person placed by his employer

to work for a longer period than that specified in his labour-contract, or

(h) that any labourer has been compelled by his employer or by any person placed by his employer

to work for a longer period than that specified in his labour-contract, or

(i) that any labourer has been compelled by his employer or by any person placed by his employer

to work for a longer period than that specified in his labour-contract, or

(j) that any labourer has been compelled by his employer or by any person placed by his employer

to work for a longer period than that specified in his labour-contract, or

(k) that any labourer has been compelled by his employer or by any person placed by his employer

to work for a longer period than that specified in his labour-contract, or

(l) that any labourer has been compelled by his employer or by any person placed by his employer

to work for a longer period than that specified in his labour-contract, or

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to work for a longer period than that specified in his labour-contract, or

(o) that any labourer has been compelled by his employer or by any person placed by his employer

to work for a longer period than that specified in his labour-contract, or

(p) that any labourer has been compelled by his employer or by any person placed by his employer

to work for a longer period than that specified in his labour-contract, or

(q) that any labourer has been compelled by his employer or by any person placed by his employer

in authority over him to perform any labour while he was unfit for it, or has been subjected to or if ill-usage is ill-usage by his employer or proved.

such Magistrate may, if he thinks fit, on the application of the labourer aggrieved, cancel the labour-contract of such labourer, and award to him compensation not exceeding thirty rupees.

Every such cancellation shall be certified by the Magistrate on the back of the labourer's copy of the labour-contract, or, if the same be not forthcoming, by writing under the Magistrate's hand delivered to the labourer.

I.—Determination of Labour contract.

141. Whenever a labour-contract determines, the employer shall endorse on the labourer's copy of the contract the fact of such determination, or, if such copy be not forthcoming, shall give to the labourer a certificate of such determination; and, if the employer refuses or neglects to do so, the Inspector may, on application by the labourer, make such endorsement or give such certificate.

The employer shall give to the Inspector notice in writing of such determination within one month from the date thereof.

142. If any labourer is able and desirous to redeem the unexpired term of his labour-contract or of the labour-contract of any member of his family, by payment of a sum equivalent to the value of such unexpired term, such labourer may require his employer to take him, or allow him to go, before the Inspector within the local limits of whose jurisdiction he may be employed; and, on his depositing such sum with such Inspector, the Inspector shall give notice to the employer that the labourer requires him, within one week, to show cause why the labourer, the unexpired term of whose contract is proposed to be redeemed, should not be released from his contract. If no sufficient cause is shown, the Inspector shall require such labourer's copy of the contract to be produced, and on production thereof shall endorse thereon a certificate that he has been released under this section from such contract, or, if such copy be not forthcoming, shall deliver to the labourer a certificate under his hand to that effect; and shall in either case hold the sum so deposited to the credit of the employer of such labourer.

The value of the unexpired term of a labour-contract shall, for the purposes of this section, be deemed to be the aggregate amount of one rupee for every month of the unexpired portion of the first year, of three rupees for every such month of the second year, and of five rupees for every such month of the third, fourth and fifth years of the original term of the contract.

CHAPTER VII.

SUPPLEMENTARY POWERS.

143. The Local Government may make rules consistent with this Act—

(a) to define and regulate the powers and duties of the several officers appointed by it under this Act;

(b) to prescribe what returns and reports shall be made under this Act by any such officers or by any contractors or local agents within the territories under its administration and the form in which they shall be respectively so made;

(c) to prescribe the forms of all registers, licenses, certificates and notices required under this Act with respect to the territories under its administration;

(d) to prescribe the particulars to be registered by a Registering officer in respect of each person who is brought before him in any district under its administration for registration as a labourer or dependent;

(e) to prescribe the fees to be paid for any license granted under this Act by any officer appointed by it and for the registration of labourers or dependents in any district under its administration;

(f) to prescribe the conditions upon which any officer appointed by it may grant licenses to masters of vessels carrying passengers to any labour-district; to provide for the ventilation, cleanliness and water-supply of such vessels in respect of which licenses are granted hereunder by any such officer; and to prescribe the lists, returns and reports to be kept and submitted by the masters of such vessels;

(g) to prescribe the description, quantity and quality of provisions, medical drugs and other stores to be taken on board such vessels carrying labourers when such vessels are within the territories under its administration, and the daily allowance to be issued to each labourer and dependent during the journey through such territories; to prescribe the number of officers, cooks and other servants to be carried on board such vessels, and to provide generally for the accommodation of labourers and their dependents on such vessels;

(h) to provide for the accommodation, food, clothing and medical treatment of all labourers and dependents detained on account of sickness by order of a Magistrate at any place within any district under its administration;

(i) to declare the routes through the territories under its administration by which labourers and their dependents shall not travel to the labour-districts;

(j) to prescribe the house-accommodation, water-supply, sanitary arrangements and amount and kind of food-grains to be provided by employers for their labourers, and to regulate the rations to be supplied to labourers under this Act in the labour-districts under its administration;

(k) to provide for the hospital-accommodation and medical treatment of labourers in such labour-districts, and to prescribe the nature, quality and quantity of medical drugs and other stores to be provided for such labourers;

- (d) to provide for the management and regulation of contractors' depôts and of hospital-depôts situate within the territories under its administration, and for the support and medical treatment of labourers and their dependents passing through such depôts;
- (m) to prescribe the clothing to be supplied to labourers and their dependents while proceeding to the labour-districts through the territories under its administration; and, generally,
- (n) to give effect to the provisions of this Act within the districts subject to its administration.

144. The Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal and the Chief Commissioner of Assam may further respectively make rules consistent with this Act to provide for the detention and inspection of vessels in respect of which licenses are granted hereunder and passengers being natives of India carried thereon while in transit through the territories respectively administered by them.

145. The Local Government may, subject to the control of the Governor General in Council, by rule prescribe as a penalty for the infringement of any rule made by it hereunder, or of any provision of this Act for a breach of which a penalty is not expressly provided, a fine which may extend to five hundred rupees.

All rules made under this Act by the Local Government shall be published in the local official Gazette, and shall thereupon have the force of law.

CHAPTER VIII.

PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE.

146. Whoever knowingly induces or assists, or attempts to induce or assist, any native of India to emigrate in contravention of a notification published under section five shall be punished with fine which may extend to fifty rupees for every such native whom he so induces or assists, or attempts to induce or assist.

147. Whoever, being a recruiter, removes, or attempts to remove, any person to a depôt before he has been registered under section thirty-two, or induces or attempts to induce him to go to a depôt or to leave the local limits of the jurisdiction of the Registering officer before whom such person ought to be brought under section thirty-one, or aids or attempts to aid such person in going to a depôt or in leaving any such local limits, before he has been so registered, or induces or attempts to induce any person who has been so registered to proceed to any place other than the depôt which has been established by the contractor on whose behalf such recruiter is licensed, or conveys or attempts to convey him to such place,

shall be punished in respect of every such person with fine which may extend to fifty rupees, or with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month.

148. Whoever, being a recruiter or a person deputed by him to accompany labourers to a depôt, fails to provide any labourer or any dependent whom he accompanies on the journey to the depôt with proper and sufficient food and lodging, or otherwise ill-treats such labourer or dependent on such journey, shall be punished with fine which may extend to fifty rupees; and, in default of payment of such fine within twenty-four hours, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month.

The convicting Magistrate may award the whole or any portion of any fine levied under this section as compensation to the labourer in respect of whom, or of whose dependent, such failure or ill-treatment has occurred.

149. Any labourer engaged by a recruiter and who, having been registered under section thirty-two, without reasonable cause refuses or neglects when at the depôt to execute, within thirty days

after his arrival at such depôt, a labour-contract in conformity with the terms made known to him when he was registered, shall be punished with fine which may extend to the amount of the expense incurred in registering him and conveying him to the depôt and maintaining him therein; and, in default of payment of such fine, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month.

Any labourer so punished may be forthwith discharged from the depôt.

Every fine levied under this section shall be paid to the contractor, sub-contractor or recruiter by whom such expense was incurred.

150. Any labourer registered under section sixty-six who, without reasonable cause, refuses or neglects to execute, within fifteen days from the day on which he was so registered, a labour-contract in conformity with the terms made known to him when he was registered, shall be punished with fine which may extend to twenty rupees or to the amount of the expense reasonably incurred by the garden-sardâr in procuring his registration, whichever amount is least.

Every fine levied under this section shall be paid to the garden-sardâr by whom such expense was incurred.

151. Whoever, being a garden-sardâr, fails, within fourteen days after his arrival in the local area within which he is authorized to enter into contracts under this Act, to report himself to the local agent (if any) specified in his certificate, or

removes or attempts to remove any person to a labour-district before he has been registered as provided by section sixty-six, or

induces or attempts to induce any person to go to a labour-district or to leave the local area specified in the certificate of such sardâr before he has been so registered, or aids or attempts to aid him in proceeding to a labour-district or in leaving any such local area before he has been so registered, or fails without sufficient cause to return to his employer within the time specified in his certificate, or

fails to account for the money advanced to him by his employer for the purpose of engaging labourers, and

whoever being a garden-sardár or a person appointed under section fifty or section seventy-three to accompany labourers to a labour-district wilfully abandons any labourer or his dependent on the way to such district,

shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month.

152. Any garden-sardár who

makes over to any contractor, sub-contractor or recruiter, or to the garden-sardár or local agent of any employer other than the employer by whom his certificate was granted, any persons engaged as labourers by him, or

allows any persons engaged as labourers by any other contractor or sub-contractor or recruiter to share the accommodation provided by him under section fifty-seven, or

places any person engaged as a labourer by him in a contractor's depôt or in the place of accommodation provided by a recruiter in accordance with the provisions of section twenty-seven,

shall be punished with fine which may extend to ten rupees; and his certificate may be impounded by the convicting Magistrate.

Any Magistrate impounding a certificate under this section shall send it for cancellation to the Magistrate by whom it was countersigned.

153. Any garden-sardár or person appointed by

Garden-sardár failing him as provided by section to comply with instructions indorsed on way-bill. Garden-sardár failing to comply with instructions indorsed on way-bill, who accompanies labourers to the labour-districts, and fails to present a way-bill as required by section seventy-six or to carry out any of the instructions entered in such way-bill, shall be punished with fine which may extend to twenty rupees.

154. Any master not licensed under section

Master receiving native passengers on board in contravention of Act. Master receiving native passengers on board in contravention of Act, eighty-nine who, in contravention of section eighty-seven, knowingly receives on board his vessel more than twenty passengers being natives of India, and

any master licensed as aforesaid who knowingly receives on board his vessel any such passengers in excess of the number specified in his license or in any order of an Embarkation Agent under section ninety-one, for the purpose of transporting them to a labour-district,

shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees for each passenger so received.

Nothing in this section applies to the master of a vessel exempted under section eighty-seven.

155. Any master licensed under section eighty-

Fraudulent alteration of vessel after grant of license. Fraudulent alteration of vessel after grant of license, nine who with intent to defraud does or suffers to be done any act or thing whereby the state of his vessel is altered, so that such vessel is unfit for the accommodation of the number of passengers specified in his license or in any order made under section ninety-one by an Embarkation Agent, shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

156. Any master licensed as aforesaid who pro-

Master not complying with section 94. Master not complying with section 94, ceeds on his voyage with his vessel carrying labourers without having complied with the provisions of section ninety-four shall be punished with fine

which may extend to five hundred rupees, or with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three months.

157. Any master licensed as aforesaid who fails

Master not complying with order under section 96. Master not complying with order under section 96, to comply with an order of an Embarkation Agent made under section ninety-six shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees for each day during which he fails to comply with such order after the day on which the order was received by him.

158. Any master licensed as aforesaid causing

Master permitting labourer to leave vessel contrary to section 98. Master permitting labourer to leave vessel contrary to section 98, or permitting a labourer finally to leave his vessel contrary to the provisions of section ninety-eight shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees for each labourer so leaving his vessel.

159. Any master licensed as aforesaid who wil-

Master or officer wilfully omitting to stop vessel at certain places. Master or officer wilfully omitting to stop vessel at certain places, fully omits to comply with the provisions of section ninety-nine shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

160. Any person who disobeys any order made

Person disobeying Magistrate's order as to communication between vessel and land. Person disobeying Magistrate's order as to communication between vessel and land, under section one hundred and one by a Magistrate shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

161. Any master licensed as aforesaid, or any

Master or medical officer disobeying or neglecting to enforce rules. Master or medical officer disobeying or neglecting to enforce rules, medical officer in charge of his vessel, who wilfully omits or neglects to obey or enforce on board of such vessel any provision of this Act or any rule made hereunder, shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

162. Any labourer who, having been registered

Labourer deserting, after registration. Labourer deserting, after registration, under section thirty-two or section sixty-six, deserts while on his journey from the district in which he has been so registered to a labour-district, or

without reasonable cause refuses or neglects to proceed from the district in which he has been so registered, or to embark in any vessel when called upon to do so by an Embarkation Agent,

shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three months.

163. Any employer who refuses or wilfully

Employer refusing or omitting to keep registers, or to make such periodical returns in writing to the Inspector, as may be prescribed by any rule made hereunder, or who knowingly keeps an incorrect register or makes an incorrect return, or who wilfully omits to prepare, file or stick up a schedule as required by section one hundred and fifteen, shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

164. Any employer, or any person acting under

Employer or other person obstructing inspection under section 114. Employer or other person obstructing inspection under section 114, his orders or on his behalf, who wilfully obstructs any entry, inspection or inquiry made under section one hundred and fourteen shall for every such offence be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

165. Any employer, or any person acting under his orders or on his behalf, who compels any labourer to perform any labour, knowing that he is at the time unfit to perform such labour, shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

Employer or other person compelling labourer to perform labour for which he is unfit.

166. Any person who buys the rations which have been furnished under section one hundred and twenty-five to any labourer, and any labourer who sells any such rations, shall be punished with fine which may extend to fifty rupees, or with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month.

Persons buying labourer's rations.

167. Any employer who wilfully omits to provide house-accommodation, water-supply, sanitary arrangements, food-grains or rations in accordance with the provisions of this Act or any rule made hereunder, shall be punished with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees; and the convicting Magistrate may order him to comply with such provisions within a reasonable time to be fixed in the order.

Employer omitting to provide house-accommodation, &c.

If the employer wilfully omits to comply with such order within the time so fixed, he shall be punished with fine which may extend to one hundred rupees for each day during which such omission continues.

If the employer fails to pay the last-mentioned fine, the person on whose account he has been acting shall be liable to pay such fine.

168. Any employer who fails to provide such hospital-accommodation for, or to make such provision for the medical care and treatment of, labourers, as is required by any rule made under this Act, shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees for each week during which such default continues.

Employer neglecting to provide hospital-accommodation.

169. Where any estate or portion thereof has been found under section one hundred and twenty-nine, or declared under section one hundred and thirty-two, unfit for the residence of labourers or any class of labourers, as the case may be, every employer who, until a certificate has been given under section one hundred and thirty-three, causes or permits such labourers or class of labourers to reside or labour upon such estate or portion, shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

Employer causing labourer to reside on estate declared unfit.

170. Every employer may, on or before the fifteenth day of each month, send to the Inspector a statement in writing containing

Unlawful absence from work.

the names of all or any of his labourers who, voluntarily and without reasonable cause, absented themselves from labour during the preceding month, and specifying the periods of such absence. When any employer sends any such statement in writing, he shall at the same time notify to each labourer concerned the fact that he has done so.

Any Inspector who receives any such statement shall, when next visiting the estate on which the labourers to whom such statement relates are employed, inquire into each such case of absence, in the presence of the labourer concerned, and, if satisfied that the labourer has voluntarily and without

reasonable cause absented himself, shall, unless the labourer consents to forfeit to his employer the sum of four annas for each such day of absence, endorse such days of absence on the labour-contract of such labourer, and add them to the term of such contract.

171. Any labourer who, voluntarily and without reasonable cause, absents himself from his labour for more than seven consecutive

Labourer absent without cause.

days, or for more than seven days in any one month, shall be liable to forfeit his wages for the period of such absence, and to pay to his employer a sum not exceeding four annas for each such day of absence, and shall also be liable to imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen days; and in case such absence has extended to twenty days in any two consecutive months, to imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month.

Explanation.—Ill-treatment of such labourer by his employer, or failure of the employer to fulfil any condition of the labour-contract binding on the employer, is reasonable cause within the meaning of section one hundred and seventy and this section.

172. If any labourer deserts from his employer's service, such employer, or any person acting on his behalf, may, without a warrant

Deserter may be apprehended without warrant.

and without the assistance of any police-officer, arrest such labourer wherever he may be found: Provided that, if such labourer be found within five miles of the place where a Magistrate resides or in the service of another employer, he shall not be arrested without warrant.

Every police-officer shall assist in arresting any such labourer if so required by the employer or person acting on his behalf.

Whoever arrests a labourer under this section shall without delay take him to the police-station nearest to the place of the arrest; and if he fails to do so shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

173. The police-officer in charge of such station shall on the appearance of the parties take down

Procedure at police-station.

in writing the statement of the person arresting the labourer, and shall then forthwith send the labourer to the nearest Magistrate.

Such Magistrate shall either inquire into and dispose of the case himself, or, if the estate of the employer from whose service the labourer deserted is not situate within the local limits of such Magistrate's jurisdiction, he shall forward the labourer to the Magistrate within the local limits of whose jurisdiction such estate is situate.

The Magistrate to whom the labourer is forwarded shall dispose of the case according to law.

174. Whenever an employer or a person acting on his behalf complains to a Magistrate that a labourer

Procedure on complaint of desertion.

has deserted from his employer's service, such Magistrate may, without previously examining the complainant, issue a summons for the attendance of such labourer, or a warrant for his arrest, and fix a day for hearing the complaint.

175. Every labourer who deserts from his employer's service shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month. For a second conviction for a like offence he shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two months. For a third and every subsequent conviction for a like offence he shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three months.

176. If it appears to the Magistrate trying a labourer for deserting from his employer's service that such labourer was arrested without sufficient cause, such Magistrate may impose a fine, which may extend to fifty rupees, on the employer or person acting on his behalf by whom, or at whose instance, such labourer was arrested. The Magistrate may in his sentence direct that the whole or any part of such fine be paid by way of compensation to the labourer so arrested.

177. Whenever any labourer has actually suffered imprisonment for terms amounting in the whole to six months for desertion from his employer's service, the Inspector shall cancel the labour-contract of such labourer, and shall endorse on his copy of the contract a certificate of such cancellation; or, if such copy be not forthcoming, he shall give to the labourer a written certificate of such cancellation.

178. Any labourer guilty of habitual drunkenness, or wilfully disregarding any sanitary regulations approved by the Inspector and duly notified for the guidance of the labourers on the estate on which such labourer is employed, shall be punished with fine which may extend to five rupees or with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one week.

179. The employer of any labourer sentenced to imprisonment for any offence under this Act, or any person authorized to act in this behalf for such employer, may apply to the Magistrate, at any time previous to the expiry of such sentence, that such labourer be made over to him for the purpose of completing his labour-contract. On such application being made, the Magistrate may, if he thinks fit, order that such labourer be made over or forwarded to his employer;

and in that case such Magistrate shall cancel the remainder of the sentence passed on the labourer, and shall endorse on his copy of the labour-contract a certificate of such cancellation, or, if such copy be not forthcoming, shall give him a written certificate of such cancellation.

Nothing in this section shall be deemed to affect the provisions of section one hundred and seventy-seven.

180. Every employer who obtains an order of a Magistrate for the making over or forwarding of any labourer shall be liable to defray the expense (if any) incurred in such making over or forwarding; and shall, before the order is issued, deposit with the Magistrate a sum sufficient in the Magistrate's opinion to defray such expense.

181. On the expiry of any sentence of imprisonment for any offence under this Act, the Magistrate shall, subject to the provisions of section one hundred and seventy-seven, make over such labourer to any person appointed on the part of his employer to take charge of him; and no conviction under this Act, or imprisonment under such conviction, shall, save as aforesaid, operate as a release to any labourer from the terms of his labour-contract:

If no person is present on the part of the employer to take charge of the labourer at the expiry of his sentence, the Magistrate shall forward such labourer to the principal place of business of his employer situate within the local limits of such Magistrate's jurisdiction, and the expense of such forwarding shall be recoverable from such employer as if it were an arrear of land-revenue.

182. When any labourer is convicted under section one hundred and seventy-one of absence from labour or is sentenced to imprisonment for an offence under this Act, the Magistrate so convicting or sentencing him shall endorse on the employer's copy of the labour-contract the period during which such labourer is convicted of being absent from his labour, or the term for which he is sentenced to imprisonment, or both, as the case may be.

The period so endorsed shall be added to the term for which such labourer contracted to serve; and such labourer shall not be deemed to have performed his labour-contract till he has served for the term specified therein in addition to the period so endorsed.

183. Whoever, knowing that any labourer is bound by his labour-contract to labour for any employer, voluntarily entices or attempts to entice such labourer to leave such employer, or harbours or employs any such labourer who has, in contravention of the terms of his labour-contract, left his employer, shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees, or with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month, or with both.

The convicting Magistrate may in his discretion award to the employer with whom such labourer has contracted the whole or any part of any fine levied under this section.

184. Whoever, being bound by section one hundred and thirty-four to send any labourer before, or to give notice of any complaint to, an Inspector or Magistrate, refuses or neglects to send such labourer, or to give such notice, shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

185. Any employer who—
refuses or wilfully neglects to endorse the labourer's copy of his contract as required by section one hundred and forty-one, or
detains a labourer after the determination of his labour-contract, or

fails to give to the Inspector notice in writing of such determination within one month of the date thereof,

shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

186. Any employer or person acting for an

Employer or other person neglecting to comply with request of labourer wishing to rescind unexpired term. employer who refuses or neglects to comply with the request of a labourer made under section one hundred and forty-two shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

187. Whoever abets within the meaning of the

Abetment. Indian Penal Code any offence against this Act or any rule made hereunder shall be punished with the punishment provided for such offence.

188. Whoever commits any offence against this

Place of trial for offence. Act or any rule made hereunder shall be triable for such offence in any place in which he may be found as well as in any other place in which he might be tried under any law for the time being in force.

189. Nothing in this Act shall be deemed to

Saving of prosecutions under other laws. prevent any person from being prosecuted under any other law for any act or omission which constitutes an offence against this Act or the rules made hereunder, or from being liable under any other law to any penalty higher than that provided by this Act for such offence: Provided that no person shall be punished twice for the same offence.

CHAPTER IX.

MISCELLANEOUS.

190. All arrears of wages due under any labour-

Wages due under labour-contract a charge upon estate. contract shall be a charge upon the estate upon which the labourer to whom such labour-contract relates has been engaged to labour; or if he has engaged to labour upon any one of several estates managed by the same employer, shall be a charge upon that one of such estates upon which such labourer, for the time being actually labours.

191. Whenever an estate on which any labourer

Owner of estate for time being has all rights and remedies in respect of labour-contracts charged on it. has under this Act contracted to labour is transferred by act of parties or operation of law, or devolves, the person to whom it is so transferred or on whom it devolves shall be bound by the labour-contract of such labourer in the same manner and to the same extent as the person by or from whom it is transferred or devolves would have been bound by such contract, and shall have the same rights and remedies under such contract as such person would have had thereunder, if the estate had not been transferred or had not devolved.

No person who has ceased to be the owner of the estate upon which any labourer has under this Act contracted to labour shall be liable in respect of any breach of the labour-contract of such labourer which occurs after he has ceased to be such owner.

192. Subject to the power of a Magistrate

Fines, fees and rates to be credited to "Inland Labour Transport Fund." under this Act or the Code of Criminal Procedure to award fines in whole or in part as compensation to the complainant or other person, the Local Government shall credit all fines, fees and rates levied and paid under this Act in the territories under its administration to a fund which shall be called the "Inland Labour Transport Fund;" and such fund shall be at the disposal of such Local Government, in such manner as the Government of India may direct, for paying the salaries and allowances of all officers and establishments appointed under this Act by such Local Government and their pensionary and leave allowances, and generally for defraying the expenses of carrying out the purposes of this Act and the rules of the Local Government made hereunder. The annual surplus accruing in such fund shall be applied to reducing the annual rate or the registration-fees leviable under this Act, and not otherwise.

193. All sums heretofore expended on roads or

Expenditure on roads other communications by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal out of the Inland Labour Transport Fund constituted by the said Bengal Act No. VII of 1873 shall be deemed to have been expended in accordance with law.

194. An Assistant Inspector shall perform all

Duty of Assistant Inspector. such duties and exercise all such powers of an Inspector as he is authorized in writing by the Inspector to perform or exercise.

195. All powers conferred by this Act on the

Powers of Local Gov. Local Government or on any Superintendent, Medical Inspector, Emigration Agent or other officer may be exercised from time to time as occasion requires.

THE SCHEDULE.

(See section 9.)

Form of Labour-contract between Labourer and Employer.

This contract, made under the Inland Emi-

* Parts in brackets to be omitted if the contract is made without the intervention of an agent, local agent or garden-sardar. gration Act, 1882, between A B (hereinafter called the labourer) of the one part, and* [C D (agent or local agent or garden-sardar) on behalf of] E F (hereinafter called the employer) on the other part, witnesseth that the said* [agent or local agent or garden-sardar

on behalf of the said] employer doth hereby promise the said labourer, that if he, the said labourer, do

remain and labour on the
 † As the case may be. X estate † of his said employer
 Y estates

in the labour-district of for the
 term of years from the date of the
 execution of this contract, he, the said employer,
 will, from the date on which the said labourer
 commences to labour on such estate pay or cause to

be paid to the said labourer monthly wages at the
 rate of Rs. † for a
 † State rates for vari- completed daily task regu-
 ous periods of contract. lated in accordance with the

provisions of the said Act, and, when such task is
 not completed, monthly wages calculated at the
 same rate in proportion to the amount of work
 actually done, and that during such period he, the
 said employer, will supply to the said labourer
 rice at a price of Rs. — per maund, and
 will faithfully comply with all rules regard-
 ing house-accommodation, medical treatment,
 and the supply of food-grains or rations to
 the said labourer, which the Local Government
 may from time to time prescribe; and this con-
 tract further witnesseth that the said labourer
 doth hereby, in consideration of the aforesaid
 promise, agree so to remain and labour for the said
 employer. In witness whereof the said parties to
 these presents have hereunto set their hands at
 this day of 18 .

Signature of labourer and of employer (or
 of his agent, local agent or garden-sardár).

Form of Description of Labourer.

| NAME. | Father's Name. | Age. | Sex. | Caste. | RESIDENCE. | | | Descriptive marks. |
|-------|----------------|------|------|--------|------------|--------|----------|--------------------|
| | | | | | District. | Thana. | Village. | |
| | | | | | | | | |

[Endorsement to be filled up by Registering officer before whom the contract is executed.]

I hereby certify that, before the said A B signed this contract, I personally explained it to him.

Signed —
 Registering officer.

[Endorsement on labourer's copy of contract, to be left blank until the contract is determined.]

I hereby certify that the foregoing contract has been determined by effluxion of time (or by mutual consent, or under the provisions of section of Act as the case may be).

Dated at

This day of

Signature of Employer
 or of Inspector.

R. J. CROSTHWAITE,

Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

[First Publication.]

The following Act of the Governor General of India in Council received the assent of His Excellency the Governor General on the 12th January, 1882, and is hereby promulgated for general information:—

ACT No. II of 1882.

THE INDIAN TRUSTS ACT, 1882.

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THE SCHEDULE.

An Act to define and amend the law relating to Private Trusts and Trustees.

WHEREAS it is expedient to define and amend the law relating to private trusts and trustees; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

CHAPTER I.

PRELIMINARY.

1. This Act may be called "The Indian Trusts Act, 1882": and it shall come into force on the first day of March, 1882.

It extends in the first instance to the territories respectively administered by the Governor of Madras in Council, the Lieutenant-Governors of the North-West Provinces and the Panjāb, the Chief Commissioners of Oudh, the Central Provinces, Coorg and Assam; and the Local Government may from time to time, by notification in the official Gazette, extend it to any other part of British India. But nothing herein contained affects the rules of Muhammadan law as to *waqf*, or the mutual relations of the members of an undivided family as determined by any customary or personal law, or applies to public or private religious or charitable endowments, or to trusts to distribute prizes taken in war among the captors; and nothing in the second chapter of this Act applies to trusts created before the said day.

2. The Statute and Acts mentioned in the Schedule hereto annexed shall, to the extent mentioned in the said schedule, be repealed in the territories to which this Act for the time being extends.

3. A "trust" is an obligation annexed to the ownership of property, and arising out of a confidence reposed in and accepted by the owner, or declared and accepted by him, for the benefit of another, or of another and the owner: the person who reposes or declares the confidence is called the "author of the trust": the person who accepts the confidence is called the "trustee": the person for whose benefit the confidence is accepted is called the "beneficiary": the subject-matter of the trust is called "trust-property" or "trust-money": the "beneficial interest" or "interest" of the beneficiary is his right against the trustee as owner of the trust-property; and the instrument, if any, by which the trust is declared is called the "instrument of trust":

a breach of any duty imposed on a trustee, as such, by any law for the time being in force, is called a "breach of trust":

and in this Act, unless there be something repugnant in the subject or context, "registered" means registered under the law for the registration of documents for the time being in force: a person is said to have "notice" of a fact either when he actually knows that fact or when, but for wilful abstention from inquiry or gross negligence, he would have known it, or when information of the fact is given to or obtained by his agent, under the circumstances mentioned in the Indian Contract Act, 1872, section 229; and all expressions used herein and defined in the Indian Contract Act, 1872, shall be deemed to have the meanings respectively attributed to them by that Act.

CHAPTER II.

OF THE CREATION OF TRUSTS.

4. A trust may be created for any lawful purpose.

The purpose of a trust is lawful unless it is (a) forbidden by law, or (b) is of such a nature that, if permitted, it would defeat the provisions of any law, or (c) is fraudulent, or (d) involves or implies injury to the person or property of another, or (e) the Court regards it as immoral or opposed to public policy.

Every trust of which the purpose is unlawful is void. And where a trust is created for two purposes, of which one is lawful and the other unlawful, and the two purposes cannot be separated, the whole trust is void.

Explanation.—In this section, the expression "law" includes, where the trust-property is immoveable and situate in a foreign country, the law of such country.

Illustrations.

(a) A conveys property to B in trust to apply the profits to the nurture of female foundlings to be trained up as prostitutes. The trust is void.

(b) A bequeaths property to B in trust to employ it in carrying on a smuggling business, and out of the profits thereof to support A's children. The trust is void.

(c) A, while in insolvent circumstances, transfers property to B in trust for A during his life, and after his death for B. A is declared an insolvent. The trust for A is invalid as against his creditors.

5. No trust in relation to immoveable property is valid unless declared by a non-testamentary instrument in writing signed by the author of the trust or the trustee and registered, or by the will of the author of the trust or of the trustee.

No trust in relation to moveable property is valid unless declared as aforesaid, or unless the ownership of the property is transferred to the trustee.

These rules do not apply where they would operate so as to effectuate a fraud.

6. Subject to the provisions of section five, a trust is created when the author of the trust indicates with reasonable certainty by any words or acts (a) an intention on his part to create thereby a trust, (b) the purpose of the trust, (c) the beneficiary, and (d) the trust-property, and (unless the trust is declared by will or the author of the trust is himself to be the trustee) transfers the trust-property to the trustee.

Illustrations.

(a) A bequeaths certain property to B, "having the fullest confidence that he will dispose of it for the benefit of C." This creates a trust so far as regards A and C.

(b) A bequeaths certain property to B, "hoping he will continue it in the family." This does not create a trust, as the beneficiary is not indicated with reasonable certainty.

(c) A bequeaths certain property to B, requesting him to distribute it amongst such members of C's family as B should think most deserving. This does not create a trust, for the beneficiaries are not indicated with reasonable certainty.

(d) A bequeaths certain property to B, desiring him to divide the bulk of it among C's children. This does not create a trust, for the trust-property is not indicated with sufficient certainty.

(e) A bequeaths a shop and stock-in-trade to B, on condition that he pays A's debts and a legacy to C. This is a condition, not a trust for A's creditors and C.

Who may create trusts. 7. A trust may be created—

(a) by every person competent to contract, and, (b) with the permission of a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction, by or on behalf of a minor;

but subject in each case to the law for the time being in force as to the circumstances and extent in and to which the author of the trust may dispose of the trust-property.

8. The subject-matter of a trust must be property transferable to the beneficiary.

It must not be a merely beneficial interest under a subsisting trust.

9. Every person capable of holding property may be a beneficiary.

A proposed beneficiary may renounce his interest under the trust by disclaimer addressed to the trustee, or by setting up, with notice of the trust, a claim inconsistent therewith.

10. Every person capable of holding property may be a trustee; but where the trust involves the exercise of discretion, he cannot execute it unless he is competent to contract.

No one bound to accept trust. No one is bound to accept a trust.

A trust is accepted by any words or acts of the trustee indicating with reasonable certainty such acceptance.

Instead of accepting a trust, the intended trustee may, within a reasonable period, disclaim it, and such disclaimer shall prevent the trust-property from vesting in him.

A disclaimer by one of two or more co-trustees vests the trust-property in the other or others, and makes him or them sole trustee or trustees from the date of the creation of the trust.

Illustrations.

(a) A bequeaths certain property to B and C, his executors, as trustees for D. B and C prove A's will. This is in itself an acceptance of the trust, and B and C hold the property in trust for D.

(b) A transfers certain property to B in trust to sell it and to pay out of the proceeds A's debts. B accepts the trust and sells the property. So far as regards B, a trust of the proceeds is created for A's creditors.

(c) A bequeaths a lakh of rupees to B upon certain trusts and appoints him his executor. B severs the lakh from the general assets and appropriates it to the specific purpose. This is an acceptance of the trust.

CHAPTER III.

OF THE DUTIES AND LIABILITIES OF TRUSTEES.

11. The trustee is bound to fulfil the purpose of the trust, and to obey the directions of the author of the trust given at the time of its creation, except as modified by the consent of all the beneficiaries being competent to contract.

Where the beneficiary is incompetent to contract, his consent may, for the purposes of this section, be given by a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction.

Nothing in this section shall be deemed to require a trustee to obey any direction when to do so would be impracticable, illegal or manifestly injurious to the beneficiaries.

Explanation.—Unless a contrary intention be expressed, the purpose of a trust for the payment of debts shall be deemed to be (a) to pay only the debts of the author of the trust existing and recoverable at the date of the instrument of trust, or, when such instrument is a will, at the date of his death, and (b) in the case of debts not bearing interest, to make such payment without interest.

Illustrations.

(a) A, a trustee, is simply authorized to sell certain land by public auction. He cannot sell the land by private contract.

(b) A, a trustee of certain land for X, Y and Z, is authorized to sell the land to B for a specified sum. X, Y and Z, being competent to contract, consent that A may sell the land to C for a less sum. A may sell the land accordingly.

(c) A, a trustee for B and her children, is directed by the author of the trust to lend, on B's request, trust-property to B's husband, C, on the security of his bond. C becomes insolvent, and requests A to make the loan. A may refuse to make it.

12. A trustee is bound to acquaint himself, as soon as possible, with the nature and circumstances of the trust-property; to obtain where necessary, a transfer of the trust-property to himself; and (subject to the provisions of the instrument of trust) to get in trust-moneys invested on insufficient or hazardous security.

Illustrations.

(a) The trust-property is a debt outstanding on personal security. The instrument of trust gives the trustee no discretionary power to leave the debt so outstanding. The trustee's duty is to recover the debt without unnecessary delay.

(b) The trust-property is money in the hands of one of two co-trustees. No discretionary power is given by the instrument of trust. The other co-trustee must not allow the former to retain the money for a longer period than the circumstances of the case required.

13. A trustee is bound to maintain and defend all such suits, and (subject to the provisions of the instrument of trust) to take such other steps as, regard being had to the nature and amount or value of the trust-property, may be reasonably requisite for the preservation of the trust-property and the assertion or protection of the title thereto.

Illustration.

The trust-property is immovable property which has been given to the author of the trust by an unregistered instrument. Subject to the provisions of the Indian Registration Act, 1877, the trustee's duty is to cause the instrument to be registered.

14. The trustee must not for himself or another set-up or aid any title to the trust-property adverse to the interest of the beneficiary.

15. A trustee is bound to deal with the trust-property as carefully as a man of ordinary prudence would deal with such property if it were his own; and, in the absence of a contract to the contrary, a trustee so dealing is not responsible for the loss, destruction or deterioration of the trust-property.

Illustrations.

(a) A, living in Calcutta, is a trustee for B, living in Bombay. A remits trust-funds to B by bills drawn by a person of undoubted credit in favour of the trustee as such, and payable at Bombay. The bills are dishonoured. A is not bound to make good the loss.

(b) A, a trustee of leasehold property, directs the tenant to pay the rents on account of the trust to a banker, B, then in credit. The rents are accordingly paid to B, and A leaves the money with B only till wanted. Before the money is drawn out, B becomes insolvent. A, having had no reason to believe that B was in insolvent circumstances, is not bound to make good the loss.

(c) A, a trustee of two debts for B, releases one and compounds the other, in good faith, and reasonably believing that it is for B's interest to do so. A is not bound to make good any loss caused thereby to B.

(d) A, a trustee directed to sell the trust-property by auction, sells the same, but does not advertise the sale and otherwise fails in reasonable diligence in inviting competition. A is bound to make good the loss caused thereby to the beneficiary.

(e) A, a trustee for B, in execution of his trust, sells the trust-property, but from want of due diligence on his part fails to receive part of the purchase-money. A is bound to make good the loss thereby caused to B.

(f) A, a trustee for B of a policy of insurance, has funds in hand for payment of the premiums. A neglects to pay the premiums, and the policy is consequently forfeited. A is bound to make good the loss to B.

(g) A bequeaths certain monies to B and C as trustees and authorizes them to continue trust-moneys upon the personal security of a certain firm in which A had himself invested them. A dies, and a change takes place in the firm. B and C must not permit the monies to remain upon the personal security of the new firm.

(h) A, a trustee for B, allows the trust to be executed solely by his co-trustee, C. C misapplies the trust-property. A is personally answerable for the loss resulting to B.

16. Where the trust is created for the benefit of several persons in succession, and the trust-property is of a wasting nature or a future or reversionary

interest, the trustee is bound, unless an intention to the contrary may be inferred from the instrument of trust, to convert the property into property of a permanent and immediately profitable character.

Illustrations.

(a) A bequeaths to B all his property in trust for C during his life, and on his death for D, and on D's death for E. A's property consists of three leasehold houses, and there is nothing in A's will to show that he intended the houses to be enjoyed in specie. B should sell the houses, and invest the proceeds in accordance with section twenty.

(b) A bequeaths to B his three leasehold houses in Calcutta and all the furniture therein in trust for C during his life, and on his death for D, and on D's death for E. Here an intention that the houses and furniture should be enjoyed in specie appears clearly, and B should not sell them.

17. Where there are more beneficiaries than one
Trustee to be impartial. the trustee is bound to be impartial, and must not execute the trust for the advantage of one at the expense of another.

Where the trustee has a discretionary power, nothing in this section shall be deemed to authorize the Court to control the exercise reasonably and in good faith of such discretion.

Illustration.

A, a trustee for B, C and D, is empowered to choose between several specified modes of investing the trust-property. A in good faith chooses one of these modes. The Court will not interfere, although the result of the choice may be to vary the relative rights of B, C and D.

18. Where the trust is created for the benefit of
Trustee to prevent waste. several persons in succession and one of them is in possession of the trust-property, if he commits, or threatens to commit, any act which is destructive or permanently injurious thereto, the trustee is bound to take measures to prevent such act.

19. A trustee is bound (a) to keep clear and
Accounts and inform- accurate accounts of the trust-property, and (b), at all reasonable times, at the request of the beneficiary, to furnish him with full and accurate information as to the amount and state of the trust-property.

20. Where the trust-property consists of money
Investment of trust- and cannot be applied immediately or at an early date to the purposes of the trust, the trustee is bound (subject to any direction contained in the instrument of trust) to invest the money on the following securities, and on no others:—

(a) in promissory notes, debentures, stock or other securities of the Government of India, or of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland;

(b) in bonds, debentures and annuities charged by the Imperial Parliament on the revenues of India;

(c) in stock or debentures of, or shares in, Railway or other Companies the interest whereon shall have been guaranteed by the Secretary of State for India in Council;

(d) in debentures or other securities for money issued by, or on behalf of, any municipal body under the authority of any Act of a legislature established in British India;

(e) on a first mortgage of immoveable property situate in British India: Provided that the property is not a leasehold for a term of years and

that the value of the property exceeds by one-third, or, if consisting of buildings, exceeds by one-half, the mortgage-money; or

(f) on any other security expressly authorized by the instrument of trust, or by any rule which the High Court may from time to time prescribe in this behalf.

Provided that, where there is a person competent to contract and entitled in possession to receive the income of the trust-property for his life, or for any greater estate, no investment on any security mentioned or referred to in clauses (d), (e) and (f) shall be made without his consent in writing.

21. Nothing in section twenty shall apply to
Mortgage of land investments made before this Act comes into force, or shall be deemed to preclude an investment on a mortgage of immoveable property already pledged as security for an advance under the Land Improvement Act, 1871, or, in case the trust-money does not exceed three thousand rupees, a deposit thereof in a Government Savings Bank.

22. Where a trustee directed to sell within a
Sale by trustee directed to sell within specified time. specified time extends such time, the burden of proving, as between himself and the beneficiary, that the latter is not prejudiced by the extension lies upon the trustee, unless the extension has been authorized by a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction.

Illustration.

A bequeaths property to B, directing him with all convenient speed and within five years to sell it, and apply the proceeds for the benefit of C. In the exercise of reasonable discretion, B postpones the sale for six years. The sale is not thereby rendered invalid, but C, alleging that he has been injured by the postponement, institutes a suit against B to obtain compensation. In such suit the burden of proving that C has not been injured lies on B.

23. Where the trustee commits a breach of
Liability for breach of trust, he is liable to make good the loss which the trust-property or the beneficiary has thereby sustained, unless the beneficiary has by fraud induced the trustee to commit the breach, or the beneficiary, being competent to contract, has himself, without coercion or undue influence having been brought to bear on him, concurred in the breach, or subsequently acquiesced therein, with full knowledge of the facts of the case and of his rights as against the trustee.

A trustee committing a breach of trust is not liable to pay interest except in the following cases:—

(a) where he has actually received interest;
(b) where the breach consists in unreasonable delay in paying trust-money to the beneficiary;
(c) where the trustee ought to have received interest, but has not done so;

(d) where he may be fairly presumed to have received interest.

He is liable, in case (a), to account for the interest actually received, and, in cases (b), (c) and (d), to account for simple interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum, unless the Court otherwise directs.

(e) where the breach consists in failure to invest trust-money and to accumulate the interest or dividends thereon, he is liable to account for compound interest (with half-yearly rests) at the same rate.

(f) Where the breach consists in the employment of trust-property or the proceeds thereof in trade or business, he is liable to account, at the option of the beneficiary, either for compound interest (with half-yearly rests) at the same rate, or for the nett profits made by such employment.

Illustrations.

(a) A trustee improperly leaves trust-property outstanding, and it is consequently lost: he is liable to make good the property lost, but he is not liable to pay interest thereon.

(b) A bequeaths a house to B in trust to sell it and pay the proceeds to C. B neglects to sell the house for a great length of time, whereby the house is deteriorated and its market price falls. B is answerable to C for the loss.

(c) A trustee is guilty of unreasonable delay in investing trust-money in accordance with section twenty, or in paying it to the beneficiary. The trustee is liable to pay interest thereon for the period of the delay.

(d) The duty of the trustee is to invest trust-money in any of the securities mentioned in section twenty, clause (a), (b), (c) or (d). Instead of so doing, he retains the money in his hands. He is liable, at the option of the beneficiary, to be charged either with the amount of the principal money and interest, or with the amount of such securities as he might have purchased with the trust-money when the investment should have been made, and the intermediate dividends and interest thereon.

(e) The instrument of trust directs the trustee to invest trust-money either in any of such securities or on mortgage of immovable property. The trustee does neither. He is liable for the principal money and interest.

(f) The instrument of trust directs the trustee to invest trust-money in any of such securities and to accumulate the dividends thereon. The trustee disregards the direction. He is liable, at the option of the beneficiary, to be charged either with the amount of the principal money and compound interest, or with the amount of such securities as he might have purchased with the trust-money when the investment should have been made, together with the amount of the accumulation which would have arisen from a proper investment of the intermediate dividends.

(g) Trust-property is invested in one of the securities mentioned in section twenty, clause (a), (b), (c) or (d). The trustee sells such security for some purpose not authorized by the terms of the instrument of trust. He is liable, at the option of the beneficiary, either to replace the security with the intermediate dividends and interest thereon, or to account for the proceeds of the sale with interest thereon.

(h) The trust-property consists of land. The trustee sells the land to a purchaser for a consideration without notice of the trust. The trustee is liable, at the option of the beneficiary, to purchase other land of equal value to be settled upon the like trust, or to be charged with the proceeds of the sale with interest.

24. A trustee who is liable for a loss occasioned by a breach of trust in respect of one portion of the trust-property cannot set-off against his liability a gain which has accrued to another portion of the trust-property through another and distinct breach of trust.

25. Where a trustee succeeds another, he is not, as such, liable for the acts or defaults of his predecessor.

26. Subject to the provisions of sections thirteen and fifteen, one trustee is not, as such, liable for a breach of trust committed by his co-trustee:

Provided that, in the absence of an express declaration to the contrary in the instrument of trust, a trustee is so liable—

(a) where he has delivered trust-property to his co-trustee without seeing to its proper application:

(b) where he allows his co-trustee to receive trust-property and fails to make due enquiry as to the co-trustee's dealings therewith, or allows him

to retain it longer than the circumstances of the case reasonably require:

(c) where he becomes aware of a breach of trust committed or intended by his co-trustee, and either actively conceals it or does not within a reasonable time take proper steps to protect the beneficiary's interest.

A co-trustee who joins in signing a receipt for trust-property and proves that he has not received the same is not answerable, by reason of such signature only, for loss or misapplication of the property by his co-trustee.

Illustration.

A bequeaths certain property to B and C, and directs them to sell it and invest the proceeds for the benefit of D. B and C accordingly sell the property, and the purchase-money is received by B and retained in his hands. C pays no attention to the matter for two years and then calls on B to make the investment. B is unable to do so, becomes insolvent, and the purchase-money is lost. C may be compelled to make good the amount.

27. Where co-trustees jointly commit a breach of trust, or where one of them by his neglect enables the other to commit a breach of trust, each is liable to the beneficiary for the whole of the loss occasioned by such breach.

But as between the trustees themselves, if one be less guilty than another and has had to refund the loss, the former may compel the latter, or his legal representative to the extent of the assets he has received, to make good such loss; and if all be equally guilty, any one or more of the trustees who has had to refund the loss may compel the others to contribute.

Nothing in this section shall be deemed to authorize a trustee who has been guilty of fraud to institute a suit to compel contribution.

28. When any beneficiary's interest becomes vested in another person, and the trustee, not having notice of the vesting, pays or delivers trust-property to the person who would have been entitled thereto in the absence of such vesting, the trustee is not liable for the property so paid or delivered.

29. When the beneficiary's interest is forfeited or awarded by legal adjudication to Government, the trustee is bound to hold the trust-property to the extent of such interest for the benefit of such person in such manner as the Government may direct in this behalf.

30. Subject to the provisions of the instrument of trust and of sections twenty-three and twenty-six, trustees shall be respectively chargeable only for such moneys, stocks, funds and securities as they respectively actually receive, and shall not be answerable the one for the other of them, nor for any banker, broker or other person in whose hands any trust-property may be placed, nor for the insufficiency or deficiency of any stocks, funds or securities, nor otherwise for involuntary losses.

CHAPTER IV.

OF THE RIGHTS AND POWERS OF TRUSTEES.

31. A trustee is entitled to have in his possession the instrument of trust and all the documents of title (if any) relating solely to the trust-property.

32. Every trustee may reimburse himself, or pay or discharge out of the trust-property, all expenses properly incurred in or about the execution of the trust, or the realization, preservation or benefit of the trust-property, or the protection or support of the beneficiary.

If he pays such expenses out of his own pocket he has a first charge upon the trust-property for such expenses and interest thereon; but such charge (unless the expenses have been incurred with the sanction of a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction) shall be enforced only by prohibiting any disposition of the trust-property without previous payment of such expenses and interest.

If the trust-property fail, the trustee is entitled to recover from the beneficiary personally on whose behalf he acted, and at whose request, expressed or implied, he made the payment, the amount of such expenses.

Where a trustee has by mistake made an over-payment to the beneficiary, he may reimburse the trust-property out of the beneficiary's interest. If such interest fail, the trustee is entitled to recover from the beneficiary personally the amount of such overpayment.

33. A person other than a trustee who has gained an advantage from a breach of trust must indemnify the trustee to the extent of the amount actually received by such person under the breach; and where he is a beneficiary the trustee has a charge on his interest for such amount.

Nothing in this section shall be deemed to entitle a trustee to be indemnified who has, in committing the breach of trust, been guilty of fraud.

34. Any trustee may, without instituting a suit apply by petition to a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction for its opinion, advice or direction on any present questions respecting the management or administration of the trust-property other than questions of detail, difficulty or importance, not proper in the opinion of the Court for summary disposal.

A copy of such petition shall be served upon, and the hearing thereof may be attended by, such of the persons interested in the application as the Court thinks fit.

The trustee stating in good faith the facts in such petition and acting upon the opinion, advice or direction given by the Court shall be deemed, so far as regards his own responsibility, to have discharged his duty as such trustee in the subject-matter of the application.

The costs of every application under this section shall be in the discretion of the Court to which it is made.

35. When the duties of a trustee, as such, are completed, he is entitled to have the accounts of his administration of the trust-property examined and settled; and, where nothing is due to the beneficiary under the trust, to an acknowledgment in writing to that effect.

36. In addition to the powers expressly conferred by this Act and by the instrument of trust, and subject to the restrictions, if any, contained in such instrument, and to the provisions of section seventeen, a trustee may do all acts which are reasonable and proper for the realization, protection or benefit of the trust-property, and for the protection or support of a beneficiary who is not competent to contract.

Every trustee in the actual possession or receipt of the rents and profits of land as defined in the Land Improvement Act, 1871, shall, for the purposes of that Act, be deemed to be a landlord in possession.

Except with the permission of a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction, no trustee shall lease trust-property for a term exceeding twenty-one years from the date of executing the lease, nor without reserving the best yearly rent that can be reasonably obtained.

37. Where the trustee is empowered to sell any trust-property, he may sell the same subject to prior charges or not, and either together or in lots, by public auction or private contract, and either at one time or at several times, unless the instrument of trust otherwise directs.

38. The trustee making any such sale may insert such reasonable stipulations either as to title or evidence of title, or otherwise, in any conditions of sale or contract for sale, as he thinks fit; and may also buy-in the property or any part thereof at any sale by auction, and rescind or vary any contract for sale, and re-sell the property so bought in, or as to which the contract is so rescinded, without being responsible to the beneficiary for any loss occasioned thereby.

Where a trustee is directed to sell trust-property or to invest trust-money in the purchase of property, he may exercise a reasonable discretion as to the time of effecting the sale or purchase.

Illustrations.

(a) A bequeaths property to B, directing him to sell it with all convenient speed and pay the proceeds to C. This does not render an immediate sale imperative.

(b) A bequeaths property to B, directing him to sell it at such time and in such manner as he shall think fit and invest the proceeds for the benefit of C. This does not authorize B, as between him and C, to postpone the sale to an indefinite period.

39. For the purpose of completing any such sale, the trustee shall have power to convey or otherwise dispose of the property sold in such manner as may be necessary.

40. A trustee may, at his discretion, call in any trust-property invested in any security and invest the same on any of the securities mentioned or referred to in section twenty, and from time to time vary any such investments for others of the same nature.

Provided that, where there is a person competent to contract and entitled at the time to receive the income of the trust-property for his life, or for any greater estate, no such change of investment shall be made without his consent in writing.

41. Where any property is held by a trustee in trust for a minor, such trustee may, at his discretion, pay to the guardians (if any) of such minor, or otherwise apply for or towards his maintenance or education or advancement in life, or the reasonable expenses of his religious worship, marriage or funeral, the whole or any part of the income to which he may be entitled in respect of such property; and such trustee shall accumulate all the residue of such income by way of compound interest, by investing the same and the resulting income thereof from time to time in any of the securities mentioned or referred to in section twenty, for the benefit of the person who shall ultimately become entitled to the property from which such accumulations have arisen: Provided that such trustee may, at any time, if he thinks fit, apply the whole or any part of such accumulations as if the same were part of the income arising in the then current year.

Where the income of the trust-property is insufficient for the minor's maintenance or education or advancement in life, or the reasonable expenses of his religious worship, marriage or funeral, the trustee may, with the permission of a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction, but not otherwise, apply the whole or any part of such property for or towards such maintenance, education, advancement or expenses.

Nothing in this section shall be deemed to affect the provisions of any local law for the time being in force relating to the persons and property of minors.

42. Any trustees or trustee may give a receipt in writing for any money, securities or other moveable property payable, transferable or deliverable to them or him by reason, or in the exercise, of any trust or power; and, in the absence of fraud, such receipt shall discharge the person paying, transferring or delivering the same therefrom, and from seeing to the application thereof, or being accountable for any loss or misapplication thereof.

43. Two or more trustees acting together may, if and as they think fit—

- (a) accept any composition or any security for any debt or for any property claimed;
- (b) allow any time for payment of any debt;
- (c) compromise, compound, abandon, submit to arbitration or otherwise settle any debt, account, claim or thing whatever relating to the trust; and,
- (d) for any of those purposes, enter into, give, execute and do such agreements, instruments of composition or arrangement, releases and other things as to them seem expedient, without being responsible for any loss occasioned by any act or thing so done by them in good faith.

The powers conferred by this section on two or more trustees acting together may be exercised by a sole acting trustee when by the instrument of trust, if any, a sole trustee is authorized to execute the trusts and powers thereof.

This section applies only if and as far as a contrary intention is not expressed in the instrument of trust, if any, and shall have effect subject to the terms of that instrument and to the provisions therein contained.

This section applies only to trusts created after this Act comes into force.

44. When an authority to deal with the trust-property is given to several trustees and one of them disclaims or dies, the authority may be exercised by the continuing trustees, unless from the terms of the instrument of trust it is apparent that the authority is to be exercised by a number in excess of the number of the remaining trustees.

45. Where a decree has been made in a suit for the execution of a trust, the trustee must not exercise any of his powers except in conformity with such decree, or with the sanction of the Court by which the decree has been made, or, where an appeal against the decree is pending, of the Appellate Court.

CHAPTER V.

OF THE DISABILITIES OF TRUSTEES.

46. A trustee who has accepted the trust cannot afterwards renounce it except (a) with the permission of a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction, or (b), if the beneficiary is competent to contract, with his consent, or (c) by virtue of a special power in the instrument of trust.

47. A trustee cannot delegate his office or any of his duties either to a co-trustee or to a stranger, unless (a) the instrument of trust so provides, or (b) the delegation is in the regular course of business, or (c) the delegation is necessary, or (d) the beneficiary, being competent to contract, consents to the delegation.

Explanation.—The appointment of an attorney or proxy to do an act merely ministerial and involving no independent discretion is not a delegation within the meaning of this section.

Illustrations.

- (a) A bequeaths certain property to B and C on certain trusts to be executed by them or the survivor of them or the assigns of such survivor. B dies. C may bequeath the trust-property to D and E upon the trusts of A's will.
- (b) A is a trustee of certain property with power to sell the same. A may employ an auctioneer to effect the sale.
- (c) A bequeaths to B fifty houses let at monthly rents in trust to collect the rents and pay them to C. B may employ a proper person to collect these rents.

48. When there are more trustees than one, all must join in the execution of the trust, except where the instrument of trust otherwise provides.

49. Where a discretionary power conferred on a trustee is not exercised reasonably and in good faith, such power may be controlled by a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction.

50. In the absence of express directions to the trustee may not charge contrary contained in the instrument of trust or of a contract to the contrary entered into with the beneficiary or the Court at the time of accepting the trust, a trustee has no right to remuneration for his trouble, skill and loss of time in executing the trust.

Nothing in this section applies to any Official Trustee, Administrator General, Public Curator, or person holding a certificate of administration.

51. A trustee may not use or deal with the trust-property for his own profit or for any other purpose unconnected with the trust.

52. No trustee whose duty it is to sell trust-property, and no agent employed by such trustee for the purpose of the sale, may, directly or indirectly, buy the same or any interest therein, on his own account or as agent for a third person.

53. No trustee, and no person who has recently ceased to be a trustee, may, without the permission of a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction, buy or become mortgagee or lessee of the trust-property or any part thereof; and such permission shall not be given unless the proposed purchase, mortgage or lease is manifestly for the advantage of the beneficiary.

And no trustee whose duty it is to buy or to obtain a mortgage or lease of particular property for the beneficiary may buy it, or any part thereof, or obtain a mortgage or lease of it, or any part thereof, for himself.

54. A trustee or co-trustee whose duty it is to invest trust-money on mortgage or personal security must not invest it on a mortgage by, or on the personal security of, himself or one of his co-trustees.

CHAPTER VI.

OF THE RIGHTS AND LIABILITIES OF THE BENEFICIARY.

55. The beneficiary has, subject to the provisions of the instrument of trust, a right to the rents and profits of the trust-property.

56. The beneficiary is entitled to have the intention of the author of the trust specifically executed to the extent of the beneficiary's interest;

and, where there is only one beneficiary and he is competent to contract, or where there are several beneficiaries and they are competent to contract and all of one mind, he or they may require the trustee to transfer the trust-property to him or them, or to such person as he or they may direct.

When property has been transferred or bequeathed for the benefit of a married woman, so that she shall not have power to deprive herself of her beneficial interest, nothing in the second clause of this section applies to such property during her marriage.

Illustrations.

(a) Certain Government securities are given to trustees

upon trust to accumulate the interest until A attains the age of 24, and then to transfer the gross amount to him. A on attaining majority may, as the person exclusively interested in the trust-property, require the trustees to transfer it immediately to him.

(b) A bequeaths Rs. 10,000 to trustees upon trust to purchase an annuity for B, who has attained his majority and is otherwise competent to contract. B may claim the Rs. 10,000.

(c) A transfers certain property to B and directs him to sell or invest it for the benefit of C, who is competent to contract. C may elect to take the property in its original character.

57. The beneficiary has a right, as against the trustee and all persons claiming under him with notice of the trust, to inspect and take copies of the instrument of trust, the documents of title relating solely to the trust-property, the accounts of the trust-property and the vouchers (if any) by which they are supported, and the cases submitted and opinions taken by the trustee for his guidance in the discharge of his duty.

58. The beneficiary, if competent to contract, may transfer his interest, but subject to the law for the time being in force as to the circumstances and extent in and to which he may dispose of such interest:

Provided that when property is transferred or bequeathed for the benefit of a married woman, so that she shall not have power to deprive herself of her beneficial interest, nothing in this section shall authorize her to transfer such interest during her marriage.

59. Where no trustees are appointed or all the trustees die, disclaim, or are discharged, or where for any other reason the execution of a trust by the trustee is or becomes impracticable, the beneficiary may institute a suit for the execution of the trust, and the trust shall, so far as may be possible, be executed by the Court until the appointment of a trustee or new trustee.

60. The beneficiary has a right (subject to the provisions of the instrument of trust) that the trust-property shall be properly protected and held and administered by proper persons and by a proper number of such persons.

Explanation I.—The following are not proper persons within the meaning of this section:—

A person domiciled abroad: an alien enemy: a person having an interest inconsistent with that of the beneficiary: a person in insolvent circumstances; and, unless the personal law of the beneficiary allows otherwise, a married woman and a minor.

Explanation II.—When the administration of the trust involves the receipt and custody of money, the number of trustees should be two at least.

Illustrations.

(a) A, one of several beneficiaries, proves that B, the trustee, has improperly disposed of part of the trust-property, or that the property is in danger from B's being in insolvent circumstances, or that he is incapacitated from acting as trustee. A may obtain a receiver of the trust-property.

(b) A bequeaths certain jewels to B in trust for C. B dies during A's lifetime; then A dies. C is entitled to have the property conveyed to a trustee for him.

(c) A conveys certain property to four trustees in trust for B. Three of the trustees die. B may institute a suit to have three new trustees appointed in the place of the deceased trustees.

(d) A conveys certain property to three trustees in trust for B. All the trustees disclaim. B may institute a suit to have three trustees appointed in place of the trustees so disclaiming.

(e) A, a trustee for B, refuses to act, or goes to reside permanently out of British India, or is declared an insolvent, or compounds with his creditors, or suffers a co-trustee to commit a breach of trust. B may institute a suit to have A removed and a new trustee appointed in his room.

61. The beneficiary has a right that his trustee might to compel to shall be compelled to perform any particular act of his duty as such, and restrained from committing any contemplated or probable breach of trust.

Illustrations.

(a) A contracts with B to pay him monthly Rs. 400 for the benefit of C. B writes and signs a letter declaring that he will hold in trust for C the money so to be paid. A fails to pay the money in accordance with his contract. C may compel B on a proper indemnity to allow C to sue on the contract in B's name.

(b) A is trustee of certain land, with a power to sell the same and pay the proceeds to B and C equally. A is about to make an improvident sale of the land. B may sue on behalf of himself and C for an injunction to restrain A from making the sale.

62. Where a trustee has wrongfully bought trust-property, the beneficiary has a right to have the property declared subject to the trust or retransferred by the trustee, if it remains in his hands unsold, or, if it has been bought from him by any person with notice of the trust, by such person.

But in such case the beneficiary must repay the purchase-money paid by the trustee, with interest, and such other expenses (if any) as he has properly incurred in the preservation of the property; and the trustee or purchaser must (a) account for the nett profits of the property, (b) be charged with an occupation-rent, if he has been in actual possession of the property, and (c) allow the beneficiary to deduct a proportionate part of the purchase-money if the property has been deteriorated by the acts or omissions of the trustee or purchaser.

Nothing in this section—

(a) impairs the rights of lessees and others who, before the institution of a suit to have the property declared subject to the trust or retransferred, have contracted in good faith with the trustee or purchaser; or

(b) entitles the beneficiary to have the property declared subject to the trust or retransferred where he, being competent to contract, has himself, without coercion or undue influence having been brought to bear on him, ratified the sale to the trustee with full knowledge of the facts of the case and of his rights as against the trustee.

63. Where trust-property comes into the hands of a third person inconsistently with the trust, the beneficiary may require him to admit formally, or may institute a suit for a declaration, that the property is comprised in the trust.

Where the trustee has disposed of trust-property and the money or other property which he has received therefor can be traced in his hands, or the hands of his legal representative or legatee, the beneficiary has, in respect thereof, rights as nearly as may be the same as his rights in respect of the original trust-property.

Illustrations.

(a) A, a trustee for B of Rs. 10,000, wrongfully invests the Rs. 10,000 in the purchase of certain land. B is entitled to the land.

(b) A, a trustee, wrongfully purchases land in his own name, partly with his own money, partly with money subject to a trust for B. B is entitled to a charge on the land for the amount of the trust-money so misemployed.

64. Nothing in section sixty-three entitles the beneficiary to any right in respect of property in the hands of—

(a) a transferee in good faith for consideration without having notice of the trust, either when the purchase-money was paid, or when the conveyance was executed, or—

(b) a transferee for consideration from such a transferee.

A judgment-creditor of the trustee attaching and purchasing trust-property is not a transferee for consideration within the meaning of this section.

Nothing in section sixty-three applies to money, currency notes and negotiable instruments in the hands of a *bona fide* holder to whom they have passed in circulation, or shall be deemed to affect the Indian Contract Act, 1872, section 408, or the liability of a person to whom a debt or charge is transferred.

65. Where a trustee wrongfully sells or otherwise transfers trust-property and afterwards himself becomes the owner of the property, the property again becomes subject to the trust, notwithstanding any want of notice on the part of intervening transferees in good faith for consideration.

66. Where the trustee wrongfully mingles the trust-property with his own, the beneficiary is entitled to a charge on the whole fund for the amount due to him.

67. If a partner, being a trustee, wrongfully employs trust-property in the business or on the account of the partnership, no other partner is liable therefor in his personal capacity to the beneficiaries, unless he had notice of the breach of trust.

The partners having such notice are jointly and severally liable for the breach of trust.

Illustrations.

(a) A and B are partners. A dies, having bequeathed all his property to B in trust for Z and appointed B his sole executor. B, instead of winding-up the affairs of the partnership, retains all the assets in the business. Z may compel him, as partner, to account for so much of the profits as are derived from A's share of the capital. B is also answerable to Z for the improper employment of A's assets.

(b) A, a trader, bequeaths his property to B in trust for C, appoints B his sole executor, and dies. B enters into partnership with X and Y in the same trade, and employs A's assets in the partnership-business. B gives an indemnity to X and Y against the claims of C. Here X and Y are jointly liable with B to C as having knowingly become parties to the breach of trust committed by B.

68. Where one of several beneficiaries—

(a) joins in committing a breach of trust, or

(b) knowingly obtains any advantage therefrom, without the consent of the other beneficiaries, or

(c) becomes aware of a breach of trust committed or intended to be committed, and either actually conceals it, or does not within a reasonable time take proper steps to protect the interests of the other beneficiaries, or

(d) has deceived the trustee and thereby induced him to commit a breach of trust,

the other beneficiaries are entitled to have all his beneficial interest impounded as against him and all who claim under him (otherwise than as transferees for consideration without notice of the breach) until the loss caused by the breach has been compensated.

When property has been transferred or bequeathed for the benefit of a married woman, so that she shall not have power to deprive herself of her beneficial interest, nothing in this section applies to such property during her marriage.

69. Every person to whom a beneficiary transfers his interest has the rights and liabilities of beneficiary's transferee, and is subject to the liabilities, of the beneficiary in respect of such interest at the date of the transfer.

CHAPTER VII.

OF VACATING THE OFFICE OF TRUSTEE.

70. The office of a trustee is vacated by his death or by his discharge from his office.

71. A trustee may be discharged from his office only as follows:—

- (a) by the extinction of the trust;
- (b) by the completion of his duties under the trust;
- (c) by such means as may be prescribed by the instrument of trust;
- (d) by appointment under this Act of a new trustee in his place;
- (e) by consent of himself and the beneficiary, or, where there are more beneficiaries than one, all the beneficiaries being competent to contract, or
- (f) by the Court to which a petition for his discharge is presented under this Act.

72. Notwithstanding the provisions of section eleven, every trustee may apply by petition to a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction to be discharged from his office; and if the Court finds that there is sufficient reason for such discharge, it may discharge him accordingly, and direct his costs to be paid out of the trust-property. But where there is no such reason, the Court shall not discharge him, unless a proper person can be found to take his place.

73. Whenever any person appointed a trustee disclaims, or any trustee, either original or substituted, dies, or is for a continuous period of six months absent from British India, or leaves British India for the purpose of residing abroad, or is declared an insolvent, or desires to be discharged from the trust, or refuses or becomes, in the opinion of a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction, unfit or personally incapable to act in the trust, or accepts an inconsistent trust, a new trustee may be appointed in his place by—

- (a) the person nominated for that purpose by the instrument of trust (if any), or
- (b) if there be no such person, or no such person able and willing to act, the author of the trust if he be alive and competent to contract, or the surviving or continuing trustees or trustee for the

time being, or legal representative of the last surviving and continuing trustee, or (with the consent of the Court) the retiring trustees, if they all retire simultaneously, or (with the like consent) the last retiring trustee.

Every such appointment shall be by writing under the hand of the person making it.

On an appointment of a new trustee the number of trustees may be increased.

The Official Trustee may, with his consent and by the order of the Court, be appointed under this section, in any case in which only one trustee is to be appointed and such trustee is to be the sole trustee.

The provisions of this section relative to a trustee who is dead include the case of a person nominated trustee in a will but dying before the testator, and those relative to a continuing trustee include a refusing or retiring trustee if willing to act in the execution of the power.

74. Whenever any such vacancy or disqualification occurs and it is found impracticable to appoint a new trustee under section seventy-three, the beneficiary may, without instituting a suit, apply by petition to a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction for the appointment of a trustee or a new trustee, and the Court may appoint a trustee or a new trustee accordingly.

In appointing new trustees, the Court shall have regard (a) to the wishes of the author of the trust as expressed, in or to be inferred from the instrument of trust; (b) to the wishes of the person, if any, empowered to appoint new trustees; (c) to the question whether the appointment will promote or impede the execution of the trust, and (d) where there are more beneficiaries than one, to the interests of all such beneficiaries.

75. Whenever any new trustee is appointed under section seventy-three or section seventy-four, all the trust-property for the time being vested in the surviving or continuing trustees or trustee, or in the legal representative of any trustee, shall become vested in such new trustee, either solely or jointly with the surviving or continuing trustees or trustee as the case may require.

Every new trustee so appointed, and every trustee appointed by a Court either before or after the passing of this Act, shall have the same powers, authorities and discretions, and shall in all respects act, as if he had been originally nominated a trustee by the author of the trust.

76. On the death or discharge of one of several co-trustees, the trust survives and the trust-property passes to the others, unless the instrument of trust expressly declares otherwise.

CHAPTER VIII.

OF THE EXTINCTION OF TRUSTS.

77. A trust is extinguished—

- (a) when its purpose is completely fulfilled; or
- (b) when its purpose becomes unlawful; or

(c) when the fulfilment of its purpose becomes impossible by destruction of the trust-property or otherwise; or

(d) when the trust, being revocable, is expressly revoked.

78. A trust created by will may be revoked at the pleasure of the testator.

A trust otherwise created can be revoked only—

(a) where all the beneficiaries are competent to contract—by their consent;

(b) where the trust has been declared by a non-testamentary instrument or by word of mouth—in exercise of a power of revocation expressly reserved to the author of the trust; or

(c) where the trust is for the payment of the debts of the author of the trust, and has not been communicated to the creditors—at the pleasure of the author of the trust.

Illustration.

A conveys property to B in trust to sell the same and pay out of the proceeds the claims of A's creditors. A reserves no power of revocation. If no communication has been made to the creditors, A may revoke the trust. But if the creditors are parties to the arrangement, the trust cannot be revoked without their consent.

79. No trust can be revoked by the author, of the trust so as to defeat or prejudice what the trustees may have duly done in execution of the trust.

CHAPTER IX.

OF CERTAIN OBLIGATIONS IN THE NATURE OF TRUSTS.

80. An obligation in the nature of a trust is created in the following cases.

81. Where the owner of property transfers or bequeaths it and it cannot be inferred consistently with the attendant circumstances that he intended to dispose of the beneficial interest therein, the transferee or legatee must hold such property for the benefit of the owner or his legal representative.

Illustrations.

(a) A conveys land to B without consideration and declares no trust of any part. It cannot, consistently with the circumstances under which the transfer is made, be inferred that A intended to transfer the beneficial interest in the land. B holds the land for the benefit of A.

(b) A conveys to B two fields, Y and Z, and declares a trust of Y, but says nothing about Z. It cannot, consistently with the circumstances under which the transfer is made, be inferred that A intended to transfer the beneficial interest in Z. B holds Z for the benefit of A.

(c) A transfers certain stock belonging to him into the joint names of himself and B. It cannot, consistently with the circumstances under which the transfer is made, be inferred that A intended to transfer the beneficial interest in the stock during his life. A and B hold the stock for the benefit of A during his life.

(d) A makes a gift of certain land to his wife B. She takes the beneficial interest in the land free from any trust in favour of A, for it may be inferred from the circumstances that the gift was for B's benefit.

82. Where property is transferred to one person for a consideration paid or provided by another person, and it appears that such other person did not intend to pay or provide such

consideration for the benefit of the transferee, the transferee must hold the property for the benefit of the person paying or providing the consideration.

Nothing in this section shall be deemed to affect the Code of Civil Procedure, section 317, or Act No. XI of 1859 (to improve the law relating to sales of land for arrears of revenue in the Lower Provinces under the Bengal Presidency), section 38.

83. Where a trust is incapable of being executed, or where the trust is completely executed without exhausting the trust-property, the trustee, in the absence of a direction to the contrary, must hold the trust-property, or so much thereof as is unexhausted, for the benefit of the author of the trust or his legal representative.

Illustrations.

(a) A conveys certain land to B—
“upon trust,” and no trust is declared; or
“upon trust to be thereafter declared,” and no such declaration is ever made; or
upon trusts that are too vague to be executed; or
upon trusts that become incapable of taking effect; or
“in trust for C,” and C renounces his interest under the trust.

In each of these cases B holds the land for the benefit of A.

(b) A transfers Rs. 10,000 in the four per cents. to B, in trust to pay the interest annually accruing due to C for her life. A dies. Then C dies. B holds the fund for the benefit of A's legal representative.

(c) A conveys land to B upon trust to sell it and apply one moiety of the proceeds for certain charitable purposes, and the other for the maintenance of the worship of an idol. B sells the land, but the charitable purposes wholly fail, and the maintenance of the worship does not exhaust the second moiety of the proceeds. B holds the first moiety and the part unapplied of the second moiety for the benefit of A or his legal representative.

(d) A bequeaths Rs. 10,000 to B, to be laid out in buying land to be conveyed for purposes which either wholly or partially fail to take effect. B holds for the benefit of A's legal representative the undisposed of interest in the money or land if purchased.

84. Where the owner of property transfers it for an illegal purpose, or transfers it for an illegal purpose and such purpose is not carried into execution, or the transferor is not as guilty as the transferee, or the effect of permitting the transferee to retain the property might be to defeat the provisions of any law, the transferee must hold the property for the benefit of the transferor.

85. Where a testator bequeaths certain property upon trust and the purpose of the trust appears on the face of the will to be unlawful, or during the testator's lifetime the legatee agrees with him to apply the property for an unlawful purpose, the legatee must hold the property for the benefit of the testator's legal representative.

Where property is bequeathed and the revocation of the bequest is prevented by coercion, the legatee must hold the property for the benefit of the testator's legal representative.

86. Where property is transferred in pursuance of a contract which is liable to rescission or induced by fraud or mistake, the transferee must, on receiving

notice to that effect, hold the property for the benefit of the transferor, subject to repayment by the latter of the consideration actually paid.

87. Where a debtor becomes the executor or Debtor becoming executor or other legal representative of his creditor, he must hold the debt for the benefit of the persons interested therein.

88. Where a trustee, executor, partner, agent, Advantages gained by director of a company, legal adviser, or other person bound in a fiduciary character to protect the interests of another person, by availing himself of his character, gains for himself any pecuniary advantage, or where any person so bound enters into any dealings under circumstances in which his own interests are, or may be, adverse to those of such other person and thereby gains for himself a pecuniary advantage, he must hold for the benefit of such other person the advantage so gained.

Illustrations.

(a) A, an executor, buys at an undervalue from B, a legatee, his claim under the will. B is ignorant of the value of the bequest. A must hold for the benefit of B the difference between the price and value.

(b) A, a trustee, uses the trust-property for the purpose of his own business. A holds for the benefit of his beneficiary the profits arising from such use.

(c) A, a trustee, retires from his trust in consideration of his successor paying him a sum of money. A holds such money for the benefit of his beneficiary.

(d) A, a partner, buys land in his own name with funds belonging to the partnership. A holds such land for the benefit of the partnership.

(e) A, a partner, employed on behalf of himself and his co-partners in negotiating the terms of a lease, clandestinely stipulates with the lessor for payment to himself of a lakh of rupees. A holds the lakh for the benefit of the partnership.

(f) A and B are partners. A dies. B, instead of winding up the affairs of the partnership, retains all the assets in the business. B must account to A's legal representative for the profits arising from A's share of the capital.

(g) A, an agent employed to obtain a lease for B, obtains the lease for himself. A holds the lease for the benefit of B.

(h) A, a guardian, buys up for himself incumbrances on his ward B's estate at an undervalue. A holds for the benefit of B the incumbrances so bought, and can only charge him with what he has actually paid.

89. Where, by the exercise of undue influence,

Advantages gained by exercise of undue influence. any advantage is gained in derogation of the interests of another, the person gaining such advantage without consideration, or with notice that such influence has been exercised, must hold the advantage for the benefit of the person whose interests have been so prejudiced.

90. Where a tenant for life, co-owner, mort-

Advantages gained by qualified owner. gagee or other qualified owner of any property, by availing himself of his position as such, gains an advantage in derogation of the rights of the other persons interested in the property, or where any such owner, as representing all persons interested in such property, gains any advantage, he must hold, for the benefit of all persons so interested, the advantage so gained, but subject to repayment by such persons of their due share of the expenses properly incurred, and to an indemnity by the same persons against liabilities properly contracted, in gaining such advantage.

Illustrations.

(a) A, the tenant for life of leasehold property, renews the lease in his own name and for his own benefit. A holds the renewed lease for the benefit of all those interested in the old lease.

(b) A village belongs to a Hindú family. A, one of its members, pays *naxiána* to Government and thereby procures

his name to be entered as the *inamdár* of the village. A holds the village for the benefit of himself and the other members.

(c) A mortgages land to B, who enters into possession. B allows the Government revenue to fall into arrear with a view to the land being put up for sale and his becoming himself the purchaser of it. The land is accordingly sold to B. Subject to the repayment of the amount due on the mortgage and of his expenses properly incurred as mortgagee, B holds the land for the benefit of A.

91. Where a person acquires property with

Property acquired with notice that another person has entered into an existing contract affecting that property, of which specific performance could be enforced, the former must hold the property for the benefit of the latter to the extent necessary to give effect to the contract.

92. Where a person contracts to buy property

Purchase by person to be held on trust for certain beneficiaries and buys the property accordingly, he must hold the property for their benefit to the extent necessary to give effect to the contract.

93. Where creditors compound the debts due to

Advantages secretly gained by one of several compounding creditors. them, and one of such creditors, by a secret arrangement with the debtor, gains an undue advantage over his co-creditors, he must hold for the benefit of such creditors the advantage so gained.

94. In any case not coming within the scope

Constructive trusts in cases not expressly provided for. of any of the preceding sections, where there is no trust, but the person having possession of property has not the whole beneficial interest therein, he must hold the property for the benefit of the persons having such interest, or the residue thereof (as the case may be), to the extent necessary to satisfy their just demands.

Illustrations.

(a) A, an executor, distributes the assets of his testator B to the legatees without having paid the whole of B's debts. The legatees hold for the benefit of B's creditors, to the extent necessary to satisfy their just demands, the assets so distributed.

(b) A by mistake assumes the character of a trustee for B, and under colour of the trust receives certain moneys. B may compel him to account for such moneys.

(c) A makes a gift of a lakh of rupees to B, reserving to himself, with B's assent, power to revoke at pleasure the gift as to Rs. 10,000. The gift is void as to Rs. 10,000, and B holds that sum for the benefit of A.

95. The person holding property in accordance

Obligor's duties, ii. with any of the preceding sections of this chapter must, so far as may be, perform the same duties, and is subject, so far as may be, to the same liabilities and disabilities, as if he were a trustee of the property for the person for whose benefit he holds it.

Provided that (a) where he rightfully cultivates the property or employs it in trade or business, he is entitled to reasonable remuneration for his trouble, skill and loss of time in such cultivation or employment; and (b) where he holds the property by virtue of a contract with the person for whose benefit he holds it, or with any one through whom such person claims, he may, without the permission of the Court, buy or become lessee or mortgagee of the property or any part thereof.

96. Nothing contained in this chapter shall
 Saving of rights of impair the rights of trans-
 bond fide purchasers. ferees in good faith for con-
 sideration, or create an obligation in evasion of
 any law for the time being in force.

THE SCHEDULE.

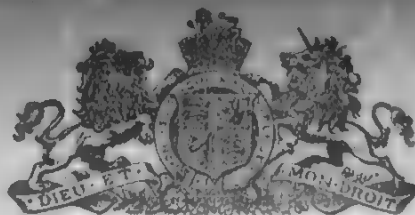
STATUTE.

| Year and chapter. | Short title. | Extent of repeal. |
|----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 29 Car. II, c. 8 ... | The Statute of Frauds. | Sections 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11. |

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| Number and year. | Short title. | Extent of repeal. |
|------------------|--|---|
| XXVIII of 1866 | The Trustees' and Mortgagees' Powers Act, 1866. | Sections 2, 3, 4, 5, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36 and 37. In sections 39 and 43 the word "trustee" where- ever it occurs; and in section 43 the words "manage- ment or" and "the trust-pro- perty or." In section 12 the first illustration. |
| I of 1877 | The Specific Re- lief Act, 1877. | |

R. J. CROSTHWAITE,
 Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India.



The Gazette of India.

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 1882.

Separate paging is given to this Part in order that it may be filed as a separate compilation.

PART IV.

Acts of the Governor General's Council assented to by the Governor General.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

[Third Publication.]

The following Act of the Governor General of India in Council received the assent of His Excellency the Governor General on the 6th January, 1882, and is hereby promulgated for general information:—

ACT No. I OF 1882.

THE INLAND EMIGRATION ACT, 1882.

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An Act to amend the law relating to Emigration to the Labour-districts of Bengal and Assam.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the law relating to the emigration of natives of India to the districts of Chittagong, the Chittagong Hill Tracts, Lakhimpur, Sibsagar, Naugong, Darrang, Kamrup, Goalpara, Khasi Hills, Kachar and Silhat; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

CHAPTER I.

PRELIMINARY.

1. This Act may be called "The Inland Emigration Act, 1882."
Short title.
It extends to the territories respectively administered by the Lieutenant-Governors of Bengal and the North-Western Provinces and the Chief Commissioners of Oudh and Assam :
Local extent.
And it shall come into force at once.
Commencement.

2. Bengal Act No. VII of 1873 (to amend the law relating to the emigration of labourers to the districts of Assam, Cachar and Silhat and to regulate contract-labour and service), Bengal Act No. II of 1878 (to extend the provisions of Bengal Act VII of 1873 to the district of Chittagong and to the Chittagong Hill Tracts) and Regulation No. IV of 1877 (a Regulation for extending to the Chief Commissionership of Assam, Chapter 13 of Bengal Act VII of 1873) are hereby repealed.
Repeal of enactments.

All contracts entered into, rules and appointments made, orders and notifications published and licenses granted under the said Bengal Act No. VII of 1873, or any of the Acts thereby repealed, and now in force, shall be deemed to have been respectively entered into, made, published and granted under this Act.

3. In this Act, unless there is something repugnant in the subject or context,—
Interpretation-clause.

The expression "the labour-districts" means the districts of Chittagong, the Chittagong Hill Tracts, Lakhimpur, Sibsagar, Naugong, Darrang, Kamrup, Goalpara, Khasi Hills, Kachar and Silhat ;

and the expression "a labour-district" means any one of such districts:

"Magistrate" means a Magistrate of a district, Sub-divisional Magistrate, and any other person appointed, by name or by virtue of his office, by the Local Government to perform the functions of a Magistrate under this Act:

"Superintendent," "Registering officer," "Inspector" and "Assistant Inspector" mean respectively a Superintendent of Emigration, a Registering officer, an Inspector of Labourers and an Assistant Inspector of Labourers appointed under this Act:

"Contractor," "sub-contractor," "recruiter" and "local agent" mean respectively a contractor, a sub-contractor, a recruiter and a local agent licensed under this Act:

"Labour-contract" means a contract entered into in accordance with the provisions of this Act to labour for hire in a labour-district, otherwise than as a domestic servant:

"Labourer" means any person bound by a contract under the provisions of the said Bengal Act No. VII of 1873 or by a labour-contract under the provisions of this Act. And it also includes any person registered under section thirty-two or section sixty-six as a labourer:

"Estate" means the land upon which any labourers or more than fifty other persons have been engaged to labour:

"Employer" means the chief person for the time being in charge of any estate upon which labourers or more than fifty other persons are employed:

"Emigrate" denotes the departure of any native of India of the age of sixteen years or upwards (other than a native of a labour-district) from any part of the territories administered by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, not being a labour-district, or from the territories respectively administered by the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces and the Chief Commissioner of Oudh, for the purpose of labouring for hire in a labour-district otherwise than as a domestic servant:

"Dependent" means any woman (not being a labourer), any child, and any aged or incapacitated relative or friend accompanying any labourer with the consent of a contractor, sub-contractor, recruiter, local agent or garden-sardar:

"Vessel" includes anything made for the conveyance by water of human beings or property:

"Master" means the person for the time being in charge of a vessel:

"Writing" and "written" include "printing" and "lithography."

And all words defined in the Indian Contract Act, 1872, and used in this Act, shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them by that Act.

4. The Local Government may, with the previous sanction of the Governor General in Council, by notification in the local official Gazette, declare that any labour-district within the territories administered by such Government shall, from a day specified in such notification, cease to be subject to all the provisions or any specified provision of this Act; and from such day such labour-district shall cease to be subject to the provisions of this Act or to the provision so specified, as the case may be.

5. The Local Government may, with the previous sanction of the Governor General in Council, by notification in the local official Gazette, prohibit, from a day specified in such notification, all natives of India, or any specified class of such natives, from emigrating from the whole or any specified part of the territories under its administration, to any labour-district or to any specified portion of any such district.

The Local Government may with the like sanction in like manner vary or cancel any such notification.

6. The publication of a notification under section four or section five shall not affect any act done, offence committed or proceedings commenced before such publication.

7. Save as provided by section five, nothing in this Act shall be deemed to prohibit any native of India from emigrating to, or entering into a contract to labour in, a labour-district otherwise than under the provisions of this Act.

8. The Local Government may appoint, either by name or by virtue of their office, so many persons as it thinks necessary to be Superintendents of Emigration, Registering officers, Embarkation Agents, Debarkation Agents, Inspectors of Labourers, Assistant Inspectors of Labourers and Medical Inspectors under this Act respectively, and, with respect to any such officer, may, subject to the control of the Governor General in Council, declare the local area situate in the territories subject to its administration within which he shall exercise the powers and perform the duties conferred and imposed upon him by this Act or any rule made hereunder.

The Local Government may suspend or remove any persons whom it so appoints.

Every person so appointed shall be deemed a public servant within the meaning of the Indian Penal Code.

CHAPTER II.

LABOUR-CONTRACTS GENERALLY.

9. Every labour-contract shall be in writing, and shall be executed in duplicate on substantial paper. Every such contract shall specify—

- the names of the labourer and his employer;
- the term for which the labourer is to labour;

- (c) his monthly wages in money and the price at which rice is to be supplied to him ;
 (d) the labour-district in which, and, if the labourer so request, the estate on which, he is to labour.

Every such contract shall be in the form prescribed in the schedule hereto annexed.

No such contract shall be made for a term exceeding five years, commencing from the date of its execution ; or shall stipulate for a less rate of monthly wages for a completed daily task regulated in accordance with the provisions of this Act than five rupees in the case of a man and four rupees in the case of a woman for the first three years of the term of the contract, or six rupees in the case of a man and five rupees in the case of a woman for the fourth and fifth years of such term.

No contract made in contravention of, or not in accordance with, the provisions of this section shall be enforceable under this Act as a labour-contract against the labourer entering into it.

10. Unless the labour-contract specifies the particular estate on which the labourer is to labour, the labourer shall be deemed to have contracted to labour on any estate in charge of the employer for whom he has contracted to labour, and situate in the labour-district specified in the contract :

Provided that no labourer shall, without his own consent, be separated from his dependents (if any) or from any other labourer who is the wife, husband, son or daughter of such labourer.

11. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Indian Contract Act, 1872, it shall be lawful for any person of the age of sixteen years or upwards to enter into a labour-contract.

CHAPTER III.

RECRUITING BY CONTRACTORS, SUB-CONTRACTORS AND RECRUITERS.

A.—Contractors and Sub-contractors.

12. Any Superintendent specially empowered in this behalf by the Local Government may grant to such persons as he thinks fit licenses to be contractors within the whole or any part of the local area for which such Superintendent has been appointed. He may also, on the application of any contractor, grant to such persons as he thinks fit licenses to be sub-contractors on behalf of such contractor, within the whole or any part of the local area for which such contractor is licensed.

13. Every license to a contractor or sub-contractor shall be in such form, and subject to the payment of such fee, not exceeding, in the case of a contractor, one hundred rupees, and in the case of a sub-contractor, fifty rupees, as the Local Government may by rule prescribe.

14. No such license shall be granted for a longer period than one year from the date thereof, and, if the licensee fails to comply with any of the provisions of this Act or the rules made hereunder, or is guilty of any other misconduct, any such license may at any time be cancelled by the Superintendent who granted the same.

A contractor or sub-contractor may, within one month from the date of any order of a Superintendent cancelling his license, appeal against such order to the Local Government.

The order of the Local Government on such appeal shall be final.

15. Every contractor, in addition to the special duties herein assigned to him, shall afford such information to the Superintendent and furnish him with such returns and reports as he may, subject to any rules which may be framed by the Local Government in this behalf, require.

16. A sub-contractor may be licensed to act on behalf of more than one contractor :
 Sub-contractor may be licensed to represent more than one contractor. Provided that he obtains a separate license in the case of each contractor for whom he desires to act.

17. A contractor or sub-contractor may act as a recruiter, and shall, when so acting, be subject to all the provisions hereinafter contained relating to recruiters.

18. Every contractor shall be liable for the acts and defaults as a sub-contractor or recruiter of any person licensed to be a sub-contractor or recruiter on his behalf, and shall be bound to make good all payments which, under this Act or any rule made hereunder, any such person is ordered to make.

The Superintendent may cancel the license of any contractor whenever the license of any person so licensed on his behalf is liable to be cancelled under this Act.

Nothing in this section shall be deemed to render a contractor criminally liable for any act or default on the part of any person licensed to be a sub-contractor or recruiter on his behalf.

19. Every contractor shall establish and maintain, at such places as the Local Government may direct, suitable depôts for the reception and lodging, previous to their despatch to the labour-districts, of labourers engaged by him or by sub-contractors or recruiters licensed to act on his behalf, and shall provide at his own expense all necessary food, clothing and medical treatment for such labourers during their stay at such depôts.

20. No such depôt shall be used for the reception and lodging of labourers until it has been inspected and approved of by the Superintendent and the Medical Inspector. Every such depôt shall be under the supervision of the Superintendent, the Magistrate of the district or such other officer as

the Local Government may appoint in this behalf, and shall be open at all times to inspection by the Superintendent, the Magistrate of the district or such officer, and by the Medical Inspector.

Whenever the Superintendent considers that any such depôt is unhealthy, or has become unsuitable for the purpose for which it was established, he may by order in writing prohibit the using of such depôt for the reception and lodging of labourers.

21. In addition to the depôts hereinbefore provided for, the Local Government may establish a separate hospital-depôt for the reception of labourers suffering from any dangerously infectious or contagious disease.

22. Whenever any such hospital-depôt is established by any Local Government, such Government may require any contractor having a depôt in the neighbourhood of such hospital-depôt to contribute to the expense of the establishment and maintenance of such hospital-depôt such reasonable sum as it may direct. Such sum may be recovered as an arrear of land-revenue due from any contractor so required.

Every hospital-depôt so established shall be under the charge of a medical officer appointed by the Local Government. Any Medical Inspector may direct the transfer of any labourer from a depôt established within the local limits of his jurisdiction to a hospital-depôt established within such local limits.

B.—Recruiters.

23. Any Superintendent empowered in this behalf by the Local Government may, on the application of any contractor or of any sub-contractor acting on behalf of a contractor, grant to such persons as he thinks fit licenses to be recruiters on behalf of such contractor within the whole or any specified part of the local area for which such contractor has been licensed.

24. Every license to a recruiter shall be in such form and subject to the payment of such fee, not exceeding sixteen rupees, as the Local Government may by rule prescribe.

25. No such license shall be granted for a longer period than one year from the date thereof; and if the licensee fails to comply with any of the provisions of this Act or the rules made hereunder, or is guilty of any other misconduct, any such license may be cancelled by the Superintendent who granted the same.

26. Every recruiter shall hold a certificate in writing authorizing him to act as such and signed by the contractor or sub-contractor on whose application he was licensed.

27. No recruiter shall in any local area engage or attempt to engage any person as a labourer unless such recruiter's license bears the countersignature of a Magistrate having jurisdiction throughout such local area.

No such Magistrate shall countersign a recruiter's license unless and until he has satisfied himself by such enquiry as he thinks fit that the licensee is not by character or from any other cause unfitted to be a recruiter under this Act, that he holds the certificate mentioned in section twenty-six, and that sufficient and proper accommodation has been provided in a suitable place and is available for such labourers, or persons intending to become labourers, as may be collected by such recruiter pending their removal to a depôt.

28. Every Magistrate shall have, for the supervision, inspection and regulation of the place situated within the local limits of his jurisdiction where such accommodation is provided, the same powers as are by this Act conferred on the Superintendent in respect of depôts.

Any Magistrate of a district or division of a district may authorize any Magistrate subordinate to him, or any officer of police above the rank of sub-inspector, to visit and inspect such place at any time; and all recruiters or other persons in charge of such place shall afford to subordinate Magistrates and officers of police so authorized every facility for making such visits and inspections.

29. If any Magistrate who has countersigned a recruiter's license afterwards finds reason to think that the licensee is by character or from any other cause unfitted to be a recruiter under this Act, or that the accommodation provided under section twenty-seven has become insufficient or improper or has ceased to be available, or that the place in which it is provided has become unsuitable, he may require the licensee to produce his license and may cancel his countersignature thereon, or he may impound the license and send it for cancellation to the Superintendent who granted the same.

Every Magistrate refusing to countersign a recruiter's license or cancelling his countersignature thereon shall at once report such refusal or cancellation and the grounds thereof to the Superintendent who granted such license.

C.—Procedure before Arrival at Depôt.

30. Every recruiter who desires to engage any person as a labourer shall appear with such person before such medical officer as the Local Government may appoint to examine such persons within the local limits of the jurisdiction of the Magistrate by whom such recruiter's license was countersigned, or, if no such officer has been appointed, before such medical officer as the Registering officer, before whom such person is taken for registration as hereinafter provided, may direct.

The medical officer shall thereupon examine such person, and shall, if satisfied that he is in a fit state of health and able in point of physical condition to proceed to the labour-district in which he intends to labour, give him a certificate to that effect.

31. Every person who obtains a certificate under section thirty, together with any persons about to proceed to a labour-district as his dependents, shall thereupon be brought by the recruiter before the

Registering officer having jurisdiction within the local area for which such recruiter is licensed. The recruiter shall at the same time produce and show his license to such Registering officer.

32. The Registering officer shall thereupon inspect the certificate given under section thirty, and the license of the recruiter, and, if he finds that such certificate has been duly given and that the recruiter is duly licensed, shall then examine such person, with reference to his intended labour-contract, and explain the same to him.

If it appears that such person is competent to enter into such contract, and understands the same as regards the locality, period and nature of the service, and the rate of wages and the price at which rice is to be supplied to him, that the terms thereof are in accordance with law, that he has not been induced to agree to enter thereinto by any coercion, undue influence, fraud, misrepresentation or mistake, and that he is willing to fulfil the same, the Registering officer shall register in a book to be kept for the purpose such particulars regarding him and the persons (if any) whom he wishes to have registered as his dependents as the Local Government may by rule prescribe; and the labourer and his dependents (if any) shall thereupon be deemed to be registered under this Act.

33. The Registering officer shall furnish to the person so registered a certified copy of such particulars written on substantial paper.

34. Every officer registering any person under section thirty-two shall forthwith forward a certified copy of such particulars and the original certificate of the medical officer regarding him to the Superintendent having jurisdiction over the depôt to which such person is to proceed.

35. For every such person produced before a Registering officer for the purpose of being registered as a labourer the recruiter shall pay to the officer such fee not exceeding one rupee as the Local Government may by rule direct.

36. No recruiter shall remove or attempt to remove any person to a depôt, or induce or attempt to induce him to go to a depôt, or to leave the local limits of the jurisdiction of the Registering officer before whom such person ought to be brought under section thirty-one, or aid or attempt to aid him in going to a depôt, or leaving any such local limits, unless and until such person has been registered under section thirty-two.

37. Every labourer shall, after he has been registered under section thirty-two, be conveyed with all convenient despatch by the recruiter by whom he has been engaged to the depôt established by the contractor on whose behalf such recruiter has been licensed.

All labourers shall, while proceeding to the depôt, be accompanied throughout the journey either by the recruiter himself, or by a competent person deputed by him with the approval of the Registering officer by whom such labourers have been registered. The Registering officer shall give to the person so deputed a certificate under his signature, stating that he has been deputed for the journey to the depôt.

38. Every recruiter or person deputed by him as aforesaid shall, throughout the journey to the depôt, provide such labourer and his dependents (if any) with proper and sufficient food and lodging.

D.—Procedure at Contractors' Depôts.

39. Within twenty-four hours after a labourer arrives at a depôt, the contractor by whom such depôt is maintained, or the person in charge thereof, shall give to the Superintendent, within the local limits of whose jurisdiction such depôt is situate, a notice in writing of such arrival, which notice shall be in such form, and shall contain such particulars, as the Local Government may by rule prescribe.

40. The Medical Inspector shall, as soon as may be after the labourer arrives at the depôt, examine such labourer and his dependents (if any) to ascertain that they are in a fit state of health to undertake the journey to the labour-district to which they intend to proceed.

The Medical Inspector shall give a certificate to the Superintendent stating whether he is or is not satisfied of the fitness of the labourer and his dependents (if any) to undertake such journey.

41. If the Medical Inspector gives a certificate of fitness under section forty with respect to any labourer, and in the opinion of the Superintendent there is no valid reason why such labourer should not enter into a labour-contract, such labourer and the employer with whom he intends to contract, or the agent of such employer, shall, within thirty days after the arrival of the labourer at the depôt, execute a labour-contract in the presence of the Superintendent.

42. Before the labourer executes such contract, the Superintendent shall personally explain it to him, and shall, after the same has been executed by such labourer and his employer, or the agent of such employer, attest such contract and certify at the foot thereof that he has personally explained the same to the labourer.

An abstract of every such contract shall be entered in a register to be kept by the Superintendent for the purpose; and after such abstract has been so entered, one copy of the contract shall be given to the labourer and the other to his employer or his employer's agent.

Power to cancel contract and order payment of expenses borne of labourer in certain cases.

43. In the following cases (namely) :—

(a) where the Medical Inspector, on making the examination required by section forty, or at any subsequent time during the stay at the depôt of any labourer, finds that such labourer is or has become unfit to undertake the journey to the labour-district to which he intends to proceed, and the Superintendent considers that such labourer has not dishonestly represented himself as fit to undertake such journey, or

(b) where the Superintendent finds that any such irregularity has occurred in the recruitment or treatment by the recruiter of any such labourer as makes it just to refuse to permit a labour-contract to be executed or to rescind such contract if executed, or

(c) where the contractor on whose behalf or by whom the labourer has been registered does not within thirty days after the arrival of such labourer at the depôt tender to him a labour-contract, for execution under section forty-one, or the employer or his agent refuses or neglects to execute such contract as required by that section,

the Superintendent may cancel the labour-contract executed by such labourer, and in that case, or if no labour-contract has been executed may order the contractor at once to pay such labourer such reasonable sum as is necessary to enable him to return to the place at which he was registered, and such further sum by way of compensation as the Superintendent thinks reasonable; and may take any other steps he thinks necessary for the conveyance of such labourer to such place.

44. Any labourer who from his state of health is, in the opinion of the Medical Inspector, unfit to undertake such return-journey, shall be entitled to be fed, lodged, clothed and (if necessary) medically treated at the depôt at the expense of the contractor by whom such depôt is maintained, until he is reported by the Medical Inspector to be fit to undertake such return-journey.

If such contractor negligently or wilfully omits to provide food, lodging, clothing or medical treatment for such labourer, the Superintendent may order the contractor at once to pay such reasonable sum as is necessary to provide such food, lodging, clothing or medical treatment.

45. When an order is made under section forty-three with reference to any labourer, any person registered as his dependent, or any labourer being the wife, husband, son or daughter of such labourer, may claim—

(a) to be conveyed at the expense of the contractor with such labourer to the place at which he was registered, and

(b) if such labourer is unable to travel, to be fed, lodged, clothed and (if necessary) medically treated in the depôt at the expense of the contractor until such labourer is able to travel;

and the Superintendent may include such expenses in an order made under section forty-three or section forty-four with respect to such labourer.

46. If, upon the arrival of any labourer at a depôt, it appears that during the journey to the depôt such labourer or any person registered as his dependent has suffered any ill-treatment at the hands of the recruiter or person deputed by him to accompany such labourer, or that such recruiter or such person has failed to provide the labourer or any person registered as his dependent with proper and sufficient food and lodging, the Superintendent may order the contractor by whom such depôt is maintained to pay such labourer a reasonable sum by way of compensation.

47. If the Medical Inspector has reason to think that any person registered as the dependent of a labourer is not in a fit state of health to undertake the journey to the labour-district to which the labourer whose dependent he is intends to proceed, the Medical Inspector shall so certify to the Superintendent to whom notice of the arrival of such labourer was given. The provisions of sections forty-three and forty-four shall thereupon apply to such dependent as if he were a labourer, and the Superintendent may make such orders regarding him as he may make under those sections with regard to a labourer.

48. The labourer to whom such dependent is attached shall thereupon be entitled, if he or she so wishes, and if he or she be the husband, wife, son or daughter of such dependent, to receive from the contractor at whose depôt he or she arrived such reasonable sum as is necessary to enable him or her to return to the place where he or she was registered. If such labourer so return, then any other persons registered as his or her dependents, and any other labourer being the wife, husband, son or daughter of such labourer, shall also be entitled to receive a like sum from such contractor.

49. On failure of the contractor for twenty-four hours to comply with an order of the Superintendent to pay any sum ordered to be paid under section forty-three, section forty-four, section forty-five, section forty-six, section forty-seven or section forty-eight, the Superintendent may pay the same to or on behalf of the labourer or dependent.

Every sum so paid shall be recoverable from the contractor with interest thereon at the rate of twelve per cent. per annum from the date of payment.

No further proof shall be required by any Court in any such case than that the Superintendent gave the contractor an order to pay such sum, and that the contractor for twenty-four hours failed to comply with such order.

50. All labourers despatched from a contractor's depôt to a labour-district shall during their journey be accompanied by a person appointed by such contractor. Such person shall take with him a way-bill in such form and containing such particulars and instructions as the Local Government may prescribe.

He shall also present such way-bill at all such places and to all such officers as may be thereupon indicated: and shall carry out all instructions contained therein for his guidance.

CHAPTER IV.

RECRUITING BY GARDEN-SARDARS AND LOCAL AGENTS.

A.—Garden-sardars.

51. Any employer may grant to any person a certificate authorizing him, within such local area as may be specified in such certificate, to enter into labour-contracts with persons desirous of becoming labourers upon any estate of which such employer is in charge.

Employer may grant certificate to garden-sardar.

Every person to whom such certificate has been granted is hereinafter called a garden-sardar.

If any labourer is granted a certificate under this section, his employment as a garden-sardar shall be deemed to be employment under his labour-contract.

52. Every such certificate shall be in such form and shall contain such particulars as the Local Government of the territories in which it is granted may prescribe in this behalf.

Any employer granting a certificate to a garden-sardar may, before such certificate is accepted and signed as hereinafter provided, specify therein the name of the local agent (if any) to whom such garden-sardar is to report himself for orders, and the time within which he is to return to such employer, and any other instructions for his conduct that he may think proper.

53. Every such certificate shall be accepted and signed by the garden-sardar in the presence of the Inspector or a Magistrate having jurisdiction over the place where the employer granting such certificate resides.

54. Such Inspector or Magistrate shall inquire into the facts stated in such certificate; and upon being satisfied of the truth of the statement shall, unless it appears to him that the person so accepting and signing such certificate is by character or from any other cause unfitted to be a garden-sardar, countersign and date such certificate.

55. On the application of the employer by whom any certificate has been granted to a garden-sardar, such Inspector or Magistrate may, without requiring the appearance of the garden-sardar or making the inquiry prescribed by section fifty-four, countersign a fresh certificate to be granted by such employer to such garden-sardar in renewal of any existing certificate.

Every such fresh certificate shall be forwarded by the Inspector or Magistrate countersigning it to the Magistrate of the district in which the garden-sardar to whom it is granted

is employed; and such sardar shall, on receiving notice from such Magistrate, appear before him and accept and sign such fresh certificate in his presence.

56. No certificate granted to a garden-sardar shall come into force unless and until it has been accepted and signed by the garden-sardar and countersigned by the Inspector or Magistrate, and no such certificate shall continue in force for a longer period than one year from the date of its countersignature.

57. Every garden-sardar shall provide sufficient accommodation to be and proper accommodation in a suitable place for such labourers, or persons intending to become labourers, as may be collected by him pending their removal to a labour-district.

The Magistrate of a district or of a division of a district, or a Magistrate subordinate to him, or an officer of police above the rank of sub-inspector authorized by him in this behalf, shall visit and inspect such accommodation; and all garden-sardars or other persons in charge of such places shall afford to such Magistrate, Subordinate Magistrate or officer of police every facility for making such visits and inspections.

In every such place the garden-sardar providing the accommodation shall make such sanitary arrangements as the Local Government may prescribe.

58. Whenever a garden-sardar contravenes any of the provisions of this Act or the rules made hereunder, or is guilty of any other misconduct, any Magistrate, Superintendent or Inspector, within the local limits of whose jurisdiction such garden-sardar is employed, may cancel his certificate.

B.—Local Agents.

59. Any Superintendent authorized in this behalf by the Local Government may, on the application of any employer, grant licences to persons to be local agents for the purpose of representing such employer within such local area and for such period as such employer may desire: Provided that no contractor shall be licensed as a local agent.

60. A local agent may within such local area represent his employer in all matters connected with the engagement of labourers; and shall furnish such information and make such returns as the Local Government may by rule direct.

61. The Superintendent authorized as aforesaid may, on the application of any employer other than the employer on whose application a local agent has been licensed, make an order in writing permitting such agent to become the local agent of such additional employer within the local area for which he was licensed. The Superintendent making such order shall forthwith send a copy thereof to the Magistrate of the district in

which such agent resides; and such Magistrate shall, on the agent's application, insert in his license the name of such additional employer.

62. Any Superintendent authorized as aforesaid may, with the consent of all the employers of a local agent, grant a special license to such agent, permitting him to engage on behalf of any employer specified in such special license, but without the intervention of a garden-sardár, persons to be labourers.

Every agent when so engaging persons to be labourers may, if he thinks fit, appear with them for registration before a Registering officer, and require them when so registered to execute a labour-contract, and in such case shall for the purposes of this Act be deemed to be a garden-sardár.

63. When any garden-sardár to whom a certificate has been granted under this Act by any employer commits any offence punishable under this Act, any local agent of such employer may prosecute the sardár for such offence.

64. The Magistrate of any district within which a local agent acts as such may by order cancel the license of such local agent if the employer so require, or if it is shown to the satisfaction of such Magistrate that such local agent has—

- (a) employed any contractor's recruiter to engage on his behalf persons to be labourers; or
- (b) permitted persons engaged as labourers by or on behalf of any contractor to use the accommodation provided for the persons engaged as labourers by any garden-sardár under such local agent's control; or
- (c) allowed any garden-sardár under his control to transfer persons engaged as labourers by such sardár to contractors or to their recruiters or to any employer other than the employer by whom such sardár's certificate was granted; or
- (d) himself taken over persons engaged as labourers by any garden-sardár with intent to despatch them to any employer other than the employer by whom such sardár's certificate was granted.

An appeal shall lie to the Local Government from any order made under this section, clause (a), (b), (c) or (d). Such appeal must be presented within three months next after the date of the order, and the decision of the Local Government thereon shall be final.

C.—Procedure to be followed by Garden-sardár.

65. Every garden-sardár who desires to engage any person as a labourer shall appear with such person, together with any persons about to proceed to a labour-district as dependents of such person, before the Registering officer having jurisdiction within the local area specified in the certificate of such sardár.

66. The Registering officer shall thereupon inspect the certificate of the garden-sardár, and, if he finds that such certificate is in force, shall examine, with reference to the intended labour-contract, the person whom the sardár

so desires to engage and explain the contract to such person.

If it appears that such person is competent to enter into such contract, and understands the nature of the same, as regards the locality, period and nature of the service, and the rate of wages and the price at which rice is to be supplied to him, that the terms thereof are in accordance with law, that he has not been induced to agree to enter therein by any coercion, undue influence, fraud, misrepresentation or mistake, and that he is willing to fulfil the same, the Registering officer shall register in a book to be kept for the purpose such particulars regarding him and his dependents (if any) as the Local Government may by rule prescribe; and the labourer and his dependents (if any) shall thereupon be deemed to be registered under this Act.

67. If it appears to such officer that any such person, or any dependent of such person, is not in a fit state of health to undertake the journey to the labour-district to which he intends to proceed, the officer may, before registering any such person or dependent, if himself a medical man, medically examine such person or dependent, or, if not himself a medical man, send such person or dependent to a medical man for such examination. If upon such examination such person or dependent is declared unfit to undertake the journey to such place, the officer may refuse to register such person or dependent.

68. For every person appearing before a Registering officer for the purpose of being registered as a labourer, the garden-sardár who appears with him shall pay to the officer such fee not exceeding one rupee as the Local Government may direct.

69. When any person has been registered under section sixty-six as a labourer he shall, within fifteen days from the day on which he was so registered, execute a labour-contract with the employer with whom he intends to contract. Such contract shall be signed in the presence of the Registering officer by such person and, on behalf of the employer, by the garden-sardár who appears with such person before such officer. The officer shall satisfy himself that the contract is in accordance with any instructions specified in the certificate of the garden-sardár. If the officer is so satisfied, he shall, before the labourer signs the contract, personally explain it to him, and shall, after the same has been executed as aforesaid, attest such contract and certify at the foot thereof that he has personally explained the same to the labourer.

An abstract of every such contract shall be entered in a register to be kept for the purpose by the Registering officer, and, of the two copies of the contract, one shall then be given to the labourer and the other to the garden-sardár or the local agent.

If any garden-sardár, without reasonable cause, refuses or neglects to execute a contract with a labourer as required by this section within fifteen days from the day on which he was so registered, the Registering officer may order such sardár to pay to the labourer such reasonable compensation, not exceeding twenty rupees, as such officer thinks fit.

70. If the employer of a garden-sardár has in the instructions specified in the certificate of the sardár directed that all labourers engaged by him shall before registration be examined by a competent medical man and certified by him to be in a fit state of health to undertake the journey to, and labour in, the labour-districts to which they intend to proceed, no Registering officer shall register as a labourer any person appearing before him with such sardár until such certificate from such medical officer as aforesaid has been produced and shown to him.

71. If the employer has in the instructions specified in the certificate of the garden-sardár directed that such examination shall be made by any medical officer in the service of Government, such officer making the examination shall be entitled to receive from the local agent or sardár such a fee not exceeding eight annas for each labourer so examined as the Local Government may fix.

72. Unless and until a person engaged as a labourer has been registered under section sixty-six no garden-sardár shall remove or attempt to remove him to a labour-district, or induce or attempt to induce him to go to a labour-district, or to leave the local area specified in the certificate of such sardár, or aid or attempt to aid him in proceeding to a labour-district, or in leaving any such local area.

73. A garden-sardár shall either himself accompany labourers engaged by him throughout their journey from the place in which the labour-contract was entered into to the labour-district wherein they have contracted to labour, or shall send with them some competent person appointed by him with the approval of the local agent of his employer; or, if his employer has no local agent, with the approval of the officer by whom such labourers were registered.

When the number of labourers (exclusive of dependents) proceeding on their journey to such labour-district is more than twenty, for every twenty labourers so in excess, or for any number of labourers less than twenty so in excess, one additional garden-sardár or person so appointed by him shall accompany the labourers so proceeding.

74. A garden-sardár may, subject to the instructions specified in his certificate, engage any number of persons as labourers; and, subject to the provisions of section seventy-three, any number of labourers may be despatched at the same time to the labour-districts.

75. Any garden-sardár may, with the previous consent in writing of the local agent of the employer by whom his certificate was granted, or, if such employer has no local agent, with the previous consent in writing of such employer, be appointed under section seventy-three as a competent person to accompany labourers other than those engaged by him.

76. Every garden-sardár or person appointed by him as aforesaid who accompanies labourers to the labour-districts shall present to the officer by whom such labourers have been registered a way-bill in such form and containing such particulars and instructions as the Local Government may prescribe. He shall also present such way-bill at all such places and to all such officers as may be thereupon indicated; and shall carry out all instructions contained therein for his guidance.

77. Every garden-sardár or person appointed by him as aforesaid who accompanies labourers to the labour-districts shall provide such labourers and their dependents (if any) with proper and sufficient food and lodging throughout the journey.

78. If it appears to any Magistrate, on the complaint of any such labourer at any place on the journey, that he or any person registered as his dependent has suffered any ill-treatment during the journey at the hands of the garden-sardár or person appointed by him accompanying such labourer, or that such sardár or person has failed to provide such labourer or any of his dependents with proper and sufficient food and lodging, or has wilfully abandoned such labourer or any of his dependents, such Magistrate may either order the sardár or person so appointed to pay to such labourer a reasonable sum by way of compensation, or may cancel the labour-contract entered into by such labourer and order such sardár or person to pay to such labourer such reasonable sum as is necessary to enable him with his dependents (if any) to return to the place at which he was registered.

79. On failure for twenty-four hours by any garden-sardár or person appointed by him as aforesaid to comply with an order under section seventy-eight to pay any sum, the Magistrate may pay the same to or on behalf of such labourer.

Every sum so paid shall be recoverable from the employer by whom the certificate of such garden-sardár was granted, or from the local agent of such employer, with interest thereon at the rate of twelve per centum per annum from the date of payment.

No further proof shall be required by any Court in any such case than that the Magistrate gave such garden-sardár or person an order to pay such sum and that such garden-sardár or person for twenty-four hours failed to comply with such order.

80. Any Magistrate or any Embarkation Agent may, if himself a medical man, examine, and if not himself a medical man, send for examination by a medical man, any labourer or dependent who, while on the journey to the district to which he intends to proceed, appears to such Magistrate or Agent not to be in a fit state of health to proceed thereto.

81. If such labourer or dependent is on such examination declared not to be in a fit state of health to undertake the journey to the labour-district to which he intends to proceed, the Magistrate or Embarkation Agent may order him to be detained at such place as he thinks fit until the labourer or dependent is in a fit state of health to undertake such journey, when he shall either be forwarded to such district or sent back to the place where he was registered, according as the garden-sardār or person appointed by him accompanying such labourer or dependent, or the employer by whom the certificate of such sardār was granted, or his local agent, may direct.

While any labourer or dependent is so detained he shall be entitled to be fed, lodged, clothed and (if necessary) medically treated at the cost of the employer with whom such labourer or the labourer to whom such dependent is attached has contracted to labour.

82. When an order under section eighty-one has been made with reference to any labourer, any person registered as his dependent and any labourer being the wife or husband of such labourer, shall be entitled,

(a) until such labourer is in a fit state of health to undertake such journey, to be fed, lodged, clothed and (if necessary) medically treated at the place where such labourer is detained and at the cost of the employer with whom such labourer has contracted to labour, and,

(b) if such labourer is sent back to the place where he was registered, to be sent back to such place.

When any such order has been made with reference to any dependent, the labourer to whom he is attached shall thereupon, until such dependent is in a fit state of health to undertake the journey to the labour-district, be entitled, if the labourer so wishes, and, if he or she be the husband, wife, son or daughter of such dependent, to be fed, lodged, clothed and (if necessary) medically treated at the place where such dependent is detained and at the cost of the employer with whom such labourer has contracted to labour; and if such dependent is sent back to the place where he was registered, such labourer shall, if he or she so wishes, and if he or she be the husband, wife, son or daughter of such dependent, be sent back to such place.

If such labourer is entitled and claims to be so fed, lodged, clothed and (if necessary) medically treated, or to be so sent back, any person registered as his or her dependent and any other labourer being the wife or husband of such labourer, shall be entitled, as the case may be,

(a) to be fed, lodged, clothed and (if necessary) medically treated at the place where such dependent is detained and at the cost of such employer until such dependent is in a fit state of health to undertake the journey to the labour-district, or

(b) to be sent back to the place where he or she was registered.

83. If the garden-sardār or person appointed by him accompanying any labourer or dependent fails to provide such labourer or dependent with food, lodging, clothing and medical treatment, or to send him back as required by

section eighty-one or section eighty-two, the Magistrate or Embarkation Agent may order such sardār or person to pay such sum as is necessary to provide such food, lodging, clothing and medical treatment, or to defray the cost of the return-journey of such labourer or dependent, as the case may be, to the place where he was registered; and, on failure for twenty-four hours of such sardār or person to comply with such order, he may pay the sum specified in the order to or on behalf of such labourer or dependent.

The provisions of section seventy-nine shall, *mutatis mutandis*, apply to the recovery of sums paid by the Magistrate or Embarkation Agent under this section.

84. If any labourer whose labour-contract has been executed by a garden-sardār on behalf of his employer is brought to Calcutta on his way to the district in which he has contracted to labour, any person empowered to act as the agent or representative of such employer may require such labourer to appear before the Superintendent for the cancellation of such contract. If such reasonable sum as is necessary to enable such labourer and his dependents (if any) to return to the place at which he was registered be paid to such labourer in his presence, the Superintendent may declare the contract cancelled, and in that case shall make an endorsement to that effect on the labourer's copy of the contract, and attest it with his signature.

85. When the Superintendent declares the labour-contract of any labourer to be cancelled, any other labourer who is the wife, husband, father, mother, son or daughter of such labourer, and who may have entered into a labour-contract at the same place with the same employer, may claim to have her or his labour-contract cancelled at the same time. On such claim being made, the Superintendent shall declare the labour-contract of the claimant to be cancelled, and shall order the agent or representative of the claimant's employer to pay to the claimant such reasonable sum as is necessary to enable him and his dependents (if any) to return to the place at which he was registered.

On failure for twenty-four hours of the agent or representative to comply with such order, the Superintendent may pay the sum specified in the order to or on behalf of the claimant; and the provisions of section seventy-nine shall, *mutatis mutandis*, apply to the recovery of any sum so paid.

CHAPTER V.

TRANSPORT BY RIVER.

A.—Passenger Vessels.

86. Nothing in this chapter shall apply to the transport by sea of natives of India to the labour-districts of Chittagong and the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

87. No master shall receive more than twenty passengers being natives of India on board his vessel for the purpose of transporting them to a labour-district unless a license to

carry passengers in such vessel has been granted to him by an Embarkation Agent duly empowered in that behalf by the Local Government.

The Local Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, exempt from the provisions of this section any vessel or class of vessels.

88. The master or owner of any vessel who desires to obtain a license under this Act to carry passengers in such vessel shall make a written application for a license to an Embarkation Agent empowered as aforesaid.

Every such application shall state such particulars respecting the vessel as the Local Government may by rule prescribe.

89. If such Embarkation Agent is of opinion that the vessel is in all respects suitable for carrying passengers being natives of India to a labour-district, he shall give to the master of the vessel a license to carry passengers therein, specifying the number of passengers being natives of India which may be received on board.

90. Such fee, not exceeding sixteen rupees, as the Local Government may with reference to the size of such vessel by rule direct shall be paid for every such license. No such license shall be in force for more than one voyage:

Provided that the Embarkation Agent may, from time to time, with the previous sanction of the Local Government, grant a license

to the master of any vessel for any term not exceeding one year, on payment of such fee not exceeding one hundred rupees, and on such conditions, as the Local Government may by rule direct.

91. Any Embarkation Agent may, in accordance with such rules as the Local Government may prescribe in this behalf, direct by order in writing that, on any particular voyage or part

of a voyage, any master licensed hereunder shall not receive on board his vessel more than a specified number of passengers being natives of India, which number shall be less than the number specified in the license granted to such master.

92. In computing the number of persons on board of any vessel, two children under ten to be counted as one person. Children under the age of ten years shall for the purposes of this Act be reckoned as one person only.

93. Every master to whom a license is granted hereunder shall keep such lists, submit such returns and make such reports in regard to the passengers carried in his vessel as the Local Government may by rule prescribe.

94. Every such master shall have on board his vessel carrying labourers and their dependents such supplies of provisions and clothing, and such medical and other officers, cooks and attendants, as the Local Government may by rule prescribe.

95. No medical officer shall be appointed to any vessel in respect of which a license is granted hereunder unless he holds a license granted by such authority as the Local Government may appoint in that behalf; and any medical officer so licensed shall be forthwith removed from his appointment on the requisition of any officer empowered by the Local Government to make such requisition.

B.—Departure of Passenger Vessels and Procedure during Voyage.

96. Whenever it appears to any Embarkation Agent that the departure of any vessel in respect of which a license is granted hereunder is unduly delayed beyond the date fixed by order of a Superintendent or the Local Government, or notified by advertisement in the public press, for such departure, he may order the master of such vessel to proceed on his voyage at once.

97. No master licensed hereunder shall proceed on a voyage with his vessel carrying labourers until he has received from the Embarkation Agent the way-bills relating to all labourers on board. The Embarkation Agent and the master of the vessel shall together personally ascertain that the number of labourers on board corresponds with the number entered in such way-bills.

The Embarkation Agent shall send a copy of such way-bills to the Magistrate of the labour-district to which such labourers are proceeding.

98. No such master shall cause or permit any labourer finally to leave his vessel at any place other than that named in the way-bill as the destination of such labourer:

Provided that this section shall not be deemed to prevent the master of any vessel from permitting such labourers to disembark at any place or places on the voyage so long as such disembarkation is not intended or known to be likely to be final; nor to prevent the final disembarkation of any such labourers, or the transfer of such labourers with their dependents to any other vessel in case of accident or other unavoidable necessity. Such accident or necessity shall be forthwith reported by the master to the Embarkation Agent by whom he was licensed, and to the nearest Magistrate in the district within which such accident has occurred or necessity has arisen.

99. Every master licensed hereunder shall stop his vessel carrying passengers being natives of India at such places, being places where a Magistrate is stationed, and shall, unless the Magistrate permits him to depart earlier, remain at each such place for such time, not exceeding six hours of daylight, as the Local Government may direct. Such master shall, on arriving at any such place, immediately report to the Magistrate the number of the crew and other persons on board, the general state of their health, and the number of deaths (if any) which have occurred among the persons who embarked on board his vessel.

100. A Magistrate may, while any vessel in respect of which a license is granted hereunder is within the local limits of his jurisdiction, go on board such vessel and inspect the vessel and all persons being natives of India on board. The master and officers of such vessel shall afford to such Magistrate every facility for such inspection, and give him all such information as he may reasonably require respecting the labourers or other persons on board, the deaths, if any, which may have occurred on board, and any other facts which may affect the health of the passengers.

101. At any time while any such vessel is within the local limits of his jurisdiction, the Magistrate may regulate the communication between such vessel and the land, and may prohibit all persons from leaving such vessel and all persons on land from proceeding on board her.

102. Any Magistrate may, if he has reason to believe that any passengers being natives of India on board any such vessel within the local limits of his jurisdiction are, or are likely to be, affected with any dangerously infectious or contagious disease, detain such vessel and require the civil medical officer of the district or other qualified medical officer to inspect such passengers and to report on their health, stating whether any or what measures are requisite for the removal or prevention of such disease. After the receipt of such report, the Magistrate may order any such passenger suffering from any such disease to be disembarked and detained for medical treatment. If in the opinion of the inspecting medical officer it is dangerous to the health of the general body of the passengers to allow such vessel to proceed until measures have been taken to cleanse and disinfect her, the Magistrate may detain the vessel for a further period, not exceeding three days, for the purpose of carrying out such measures.

103. If, on receiving a report of a medical officer, it appears to a Magistrate that any labourer or any dependent of any labourer, though not suffering from any such disease as last aforesaid, is not in a fit state of health to proceed to the labour-district in which such labourer has contracted to labour, he may order such labourer or dependent to be detained, and shall arrange for their accommodation and treatment, and shall cause all necessary arrangements to be made for the accommodation, support and medical treatment of the labourer or dependent so detained.

104. All expenses incurred under section one hundred and three by a Magistrate in respect of any labourer or dependent so detained shall be recoverable from the employer of such labourer together with interest at six per centum per annum.

105. Whenever it appears to a Magistrate making an inspection of any vessel in respect of which a license is granted hereunder that the number of passengers on board being natives of India is larger than the number specified in such license or than the number specified in an order of an Embarkation Agent made under section ninety-one, he may remove the excess number and detain them until another opportunity of forwarding them to their destination is found. The necessary expense of maintaining such passengers while so detained and of forwarding them to their destination shall be paid by such Magistrate, and shall be recoverable from the master or owner of such vessel.

106. Whenever, on making an inspection of any vessel in respect of which a license is granted hereunder, a Magistrate finds that any of the provisions of this Act or of any rule of the Local Government made hereunder have not been complied with in respect of such vessel, he shall report the same to the Embarkation Agent by whom such license was granted; and, if he considers it necessary to do so, he may detain the vessel until such provisions have been so complied with as to make it possible for the voyage to be further prosecuted with safety and reasonable comfort to the emigrants.

Power to make rules regulating disembarkation and other matters.

107. The Local Government may make rules regulating—

- (a) the disembarkation of labourers and their dependents, and their inspection and accommodation on arrival at their destination;
- (b) the detention of such labourers or dependents at debarkation-depôts;
- (c) the forwarding of labourers to their destination and the closing and return of way-bills by employers.

All expenses incurred by any Magistrate or Embarkation Agent in accordance with such rules shall be recoverable from the employers of such labourers together with interest at the rate of twelve per centum per annum.

108. The Magistrate of a district, or of a division of a district, may from time to time authorize any subordinate Magistrate, medical officer or officer of police above the rank of sub-inspector to exercise the powers and authorities conferred, and to perform the duties imposed, on a Magistrate under sections ninety-nine to one hundred and six, both inclusive.

CHAPTER VI.

PROVISIONS AS TO THE LABOUR-DISTRICTS.

A.—Annual Rate payable by Employers.

109. Every employer shall, on the first day of January and the first day of July in each year, pay in respect of each labourer then in his employ such rate, not exceeding an annual sum of one rupee, as the Local Government may by notification in the official Gazette direct.

110. If any employer fails, for the space of one month after the receipt of a notice in such form and served in such manner as the Local Government may prescribe, to pay any sum due

by him under the provisions of the last preceding section, such sum shall be recoverable as if it were an arrear of land-revenue due from such employer.

B.—Local Labour-contracts.

111. Notwithstanding anything hereinbefore contained, any employer within labour-districts may enter into a labour-contract with any native of India within a labour-district. When any employer has executed any such contract with any such native within a labour-district, he shall, within one month from the date of the execution of such contract, forward it in duplicate to the Inspector within the local limits of whose jurisdiction such employer resides. On receipt of the contract so forwarded, the Inspector shall enter an abstract thereof in a register to be kept by him for the purpose, and shall then give one copy of the contract to the labourer and the other copy to his employer.

Registration of such contracts.

When, for the first time after the registration of any such contract with a labourer, the Inspector visits the estate on which such labourer is employed, the employer shall cause such labourer to appear before the Inspector, and such labourer may thereupon apply to the Inspector to cancel the contract; and, if he shows cause sufficient in the opinion of the Inspector to justify the cancellation, the Inspector may cancel the contract, and shall thereupon endorse on the labourer's copy of the contract, or if such copy be not forthcoming, shall give to the labourer, a certificate of such cancellation.

112. Any employer desirous of entering into a

Execution of labour-contract before Inspector or Magistrate.

labour-contract with any native of India in a labour-district may, instead of executing such contract under section one hundred and eleven, appear either in person or by agent with such native before the Inspector or Magistrate within the local limits of whose jurisdiction such employer resides.

Such Inspector or Magistrate shall thereupon explain the labour-contract to such native, and shall, if satisfied that he is competent to enter into and understands the same, call upon him and the employer or his agent to execute it in his presence; and, if they execute it, shall attest such execution with his signature.

An abstract of every such labour-contract shall be entered in a register to be kept by the Inspector or Magistrate for the purpose; and one copy of such contract shall then be given to the labourer and the other copy to his employer or his agent.

In respect of every labour-contract an abstract whereof is registered under section one hundred and eleven or under this section, the employer who executes such contract in person or by agent shall pay to the Inspector or Magistrate such fee, not exceeding one rupee, as the Local Government may direct.

C.—Employers' Returns and Magistrates' Inspections.

113. Every employer shall keep such registers

Registers to be kept of all labourers and other persons employed on the estate of which he is in charge, in such form, and shall make to the Inspector within the local limits of whose jurisdiction such

estate is situate such periodical returns in writing, as the Local Government may by rule prescribe. The Inspector may examine such registers and muster all labourers and other persons employed on any estate within such local limits, and may verify the accuracy of the entries in such registers, or in any prescribed periodical return.

114. Any Inspector or Magistrate, or any person

Inspector and Magistrate may at any time inspect lands, &c., used by labourers, &c.

authorized by either of them in writing in this behalf, may at any time enter and inspect all lands and houses wholly or partially used by or for labourers, or by or for any other natives of India employed on any estate who are not natives of the labour-district in which such estate is situate, and may require that any labourer or other such native shall be brought before him, and that a copy of the labour-contract of any labourer shall be produced, and may make any inquiries which he thinks proper touching the condition or treatment of any labourer or other such native.

D.—Regulation of Labour.

115. Every employer shall prepare a schedule

Schedule of task-work specifying the daily task to be executed by each labourer employed on the estate of which such employer is in charge, and may from time to time alter any schedule so prepared.

One copy of every such schedule shall be filed in a book which shall be open to the examination of the Inspector, and another copy thereof in the Bengali language shall be stuck up in some conspicuous place accessible to the labourers to whom such schedule relates.

The minimum payment for each daily task shall be the quotient resulting from dividing the monthly wage of the labourer concerned by the whole number of days in the current month.

116. No labourer shall be bound to labour more

Limitations and conditions of task-work.

than six days in one week, or more than six consecutive hours, or more than nine hours in any one day. Every labourer shall, for one day in each week, receive wages as for a full task done, without being required to labour for the same. The employer shall, on six days in each week, provide for each labourer work sufficient to enable him to earn at least his minimum daily wage. Failing such due provision of work, the labourer shall, if he can show that he was able and willing to labour for the same, be entitled to claim his minimum daily wage.

117. If the Inspector considers that any sche-

Provisions for revision of schedule by Inspector subject to appeal to committee.

dule of daily tasks, or any part thereof, is unreasonable, he may by order in writing direct that a reduction specified in such order be made of such tasks. The employer shall at once make such reduction, but may, if dissatisfied with the Inspector's order, by notice in writing require the Inspector to refer the schedule to a committee for consideration. Such committee shall consist—

(a) of the Inspector,

(b) of some person to be nominated by the employer whose schedule is to be considered, and

(c) if practicable, of a medical officer.

Where the employer fails to nominate a person within seven days after being thereunto requested in writing by the Inspector, the Inspector, instead of the employer so failing, may nominate a person.

When the committee consists only of the Inspector or of a person nominated by the employer or Inspector, the Inspector shall have the casting vote.

118. If such committee, or a majority thereof, is of opinion that the daily tasks specified in such schedule or any of them are unreasonable, they shall modify and reduce them in such manner as they think fit. The employer shall thereupon alter his schedule accordingly, and copies of the schedule so altered shall be filed and stuck up in the manner directed in section one hundred and fifteen, and shall, as between him and the labourers concerned, take the place of the former schedule.

119. Notwithstanding anything contained in any such schedule, the Inspector may order that any specified labourer, who is in his opinion unable from weakness to earn by his labour the sum of one anna and a half per diem, according to the said schedule, shall receive, in lieu of such actual earnings, subsistence-allowance at the rate of one anna and a half per diem, or diet on a scale to be approved by such Inspector. Such subsistence-allowance shall be recoverable as if it were an arrear of wages.

B.—Incapacity for Labour.

120. The Inspector within the local limits of whose jurisdiction any labourer is employed may release such labourer, for such period as he thinks fit, from performing his labour-contract; if he be, in the judgment of such Inspector, temporarily unfitted for the performance thereof by reason of sickness, or other sufficient cause.

Every such release shall be endorsed by the Inspector on the labour-contract, and the time during which the release continues shall not be reckoned as part of the term for which the labourer is bound to serve. Every such labourer shall, during such release, receive such subsistence-allowance from his employer as the Inspector thinks sufficient.

121. If any labourer is compelled to absent himself from work on account of sickness, he shall receive from his employer for each day of such absence subsistence-allowance of one anna and a half, or, if in hospital, sick diet on a scale to be approved by the Inspector.

If such absence exceeds the total number of thirty days in any one year, and the employer, as soon as such number is exceeded, gives the labourer a notice in writing to that effect, each day of absence in excess of such number shall be added to the term of the labour-contract, unless the labourer refunds to the employer the sum of one anna and a half for each day so in excess. The Inspector shall from time to time, when visiting the estate, endorse on the labourer's labour-contract, after such enquiry as may be necessary, the number of days so added to the term thereof.

122. If, in the opinion of the Inspector, any labourer is permanently incapacitated for the performance of his labour-contract or any material part thereof, the Inspector shall

certify to that effect in writing and deliver such certificate to the employer of such labourer or his agent, and from the date of such certificate the labour-contract of such labourer shall wholly determine. Every labourer whose labour-contract so determines shall be entitled to receive from his employer such sum, not exceeding three months' wages, as the Inspector may award.

Such sum and any subsistence-allowance mentioned in sections one hundred and twenty and one hundred and twenty-one shall be recoverable as if they were arrears of wages.

F.—Accommodation for Labourers.

123. Every employer shall be bound to provide for the labourers employed on the estate of which he is in charge such house accommodation, water-supply and sanitary arrangements as the Local Government may by rule direct.

124. When the food-grain commonly used by any class of labourers is not procurable by such labourers at reasonable prices in the local markets near the estate on which such labourers are employed, the employer of such labourers shall be bound to supply them with such grain at a reasonable price. The Local Government may by notification in the official Gazette determine, either generally or for each district or part of a district, what shall for the purposes of this section be deemed to be a reasonable price.

125. Subject to any rules which may be made by the Local Government in this behalf, any Inspector may, by order in writing,

(a) direct that, on any specified estate within the local limits of his jurisdiction, all the labourers or any specified class of labourers shall be furnished by their employer with rations, cooked or uncooked, on such scale, for such period not exceeding three months from the date of their arrival on the estate, as may be specified in such order;

(b) exempt any specified labourer from the effect of any such general order if he is satisfied that such labourer is able to earn a full wage and desires to provide himself with proper and sufficient food;

(c) direct that any specified labourer shall be furnished with rations for any term not exceeding six months, and renew any such order for a like term.

The cost of each labourer's ration furnished to him in accordance with any order made under this section shall be calculated at current rates as determined by the Inspector, and shall be deducted from any wages earned by the labourer during the period for which such order is in force.

126. If any employer does not, in the opinion of the Inspector, provide such hospital-accommodation in a suitable place available to the labourers employed upon the estate of which he is in charge, or does not make such provision for the medical treatment of such labourers, as the Local Government may direct, the Local Government may require such employer to contribute to the support of a central hospital to be established, or to the pay of a medical officer to be appointed,

for the medical treatment of such labourers, such sum, proportionate to the number of labourers so employed, as it thinks fit.

127. Any Inspector or Assistant Inspector who is himself a Magistrate may, with respect to any estate situate within the local limits of his jurisdiction, institute an inquiry whether the employer in charge of such estate has provided for his labourers house-accommodation, water-supply, sanitary arrangements, food-grains and rations in accordance with the rules prescribed by the Local Government. At the instance of any Inspector or Assistant Inspector a similar inquiry may be made by a Magistrate. Every such inquiry shall be held at some place on the estate to which it relates, or within ten miles of such estate, and shall be conducted and dealt with as if it were an inquiry of a Magistrate under the Code of Criminal Procedure.

G.—Localities unfit for the Residence of Labourers.

128. If in the opinion of the Inspector any estate or portion of an estate situate within the local limits of his jurisdiction is at any time, by reason of climate, situation or condition, unfit for the residence of labourers, or of any particular class of labourers, he shall give notice in writing of such opinion to the Magistrate of the district, and such Magistrate shall forthwith, by order in writing, summon a Committee to inquire into the matter.

Inspector to report.

Such Committee shall consist of the Magistrate, the Inspector, the medical officer of the district and one or more employers of labourers, when such employers are available.

If the Magistrate is unable to procure the service on such Committee of any employer of labourers, he may, with the previous sanction of the Commissioner of the division, appoint one or more persons qualified to serve on such Committee.

129. Such Committee shall as soon as may be inquire into the healthiness of the estate or portion to which the order appointing the Committee relates, and shall hear and record such information on the subject as the owner of such estate or portion, or the employer in charge thereof or the Inspector, may desire to place before it.

Proceedings of Committee.

If such Committee or the majority thereof is of opinion that such estate or portion, or any part of such estate or portion, is unfit for the residence of labourers generally, or of any particular class of labourers, it shall record a finding to that effect.

If Committee finds estate unfit, labour-contract to be void as regards such estate.

When such finding has been recorded, no labourer, or no labourer of the particular class to which such finding relates, as the case may be, shall be bound by any labour-contract to labour on the estate or portion, or part of such estate or portion, as the case may be, which is found unfit for the residence of such labourers.

When any labourer is released under this section from the performance of a labour-contract to labour on any estate, he shall be bound to labour elsewhere.

Labourer bound to labour elsewhere.

130. Whenever it appears to the Local Government that the number of labourers employed on an estate who have died thereon, or on any portion thereof, during the last preceding twelve months, or that the average annual number of labourers employed on an estate who have died thereon or on any portion thereof during the last preceding three years, bears a larger proportion to the whole number of labourers employed thereon during such period of twelve months or three years, as the case may be, than seven per centum, the Local Government may direct the civil medical officer of the district or other qualified medical officer to inquire into and report on the following matters:—

(a) the cause or causes of such mortality;

(b) the want (if any) of due care or precaution, and of the adoption of proper and available sanitary measures, on the part of the owner of such estate or portion thereof, or the employer in charge of such estate or portion, causing or contributing to such mortality;

(c) the fitness or otherwise of such estate or portion for the residence of labourers.

131. Such medical officer shall, as soon as may be, inquire into such matters, and shall hear and record such information relating thereto as the owner of such estate or portion, or the employer in charge of the same, or the Inspector, may place before him, and shall visit and inspect such estate or portion, and shall make a report expressing the reasons for his opinion, and transmit the same to the Local Government together with the information so recorded and the notes of his inspection of such estate or portion.

132. If the Local Government, after perusal and consideration of the said report, information and notes, is of opinion that such mortality was caused by the want, on the part of the owner of such estate or portion, or the employer in charge of the same, of due care or precaution, or of the adoption of proper and available sanitary measures, and that such estate or portion is thereby rendered unfit for the residence of labourers, it may declare in writing that such estate or portion is unfit for the residence of labourers. Such declaration of the Local Government shall have the same effect as the finding of a Committee under section one hundred and twenty-nine.

133. If it at any time appears to the Inspector or that any estate or portion thereof, or any part of such portion, found under section one hundred and twenty-nine, or declared under section one hundred and thirty-two, to be unfit for the residence of labourers, or any particular class of labourers, has become fit for the residence of such labourers or

to labour on any other estate belonging to his employer and situate in the same labour-district; or, where the finding relates only to a portion or part of an estate, on any other portion or part of the same estate.

Local Government how to proceed if mortality in past year exceeds seven per cent., or if the average mortality for three years exceeds seven per cent.

Matters to be enquired into.

Medical officer to report.

Local Government may declare estate unfit for residence.

Effect of declaration.

Power to certify fitness of estate or portion found or declared to be unfit.

such particular class of labourers, as the case may be, he shall, with the previous sanction of the Magistrate of the district in which such estate, portion or part is situate, give a certificate to that effect signed by him. Thereupon all labourers who have been released under section one hundred and twenty-nine or section one hundred and thirty-two from the performance of a contract to labour on such estate, portion or part, shall again be bound to labour on the estate, portion or part, as the case may be, to which the certificate relates.

II.—Complaints made by Labourers.

134. If any labourer states to his employer, or

If labourer wishes to complain of personal ill-usage or breach of Act, employer to send him to Inspector or Magistrate.

any person acting on behalf of his employer, that he desires to make a complaint to the Inspector or to any Magistrate of personal ill-usage or breach, on the part of his employer or such person, of any provisions of this Act or of any rule of the Local Government made hereunder, the person to whom such statement is made shall forthwith send such labourer to the Inspector or Magistrate within the local limits of whose jurisdiction the estate wherein he is employed is situate: Provided that, if more than ten labourers at any one time so state their desire to make such a complaint, the person to whom the statement is made may, instead of sending such labourers to such Inspector or Magistrate, give him notice in writing of their complaint.

135. Whenever any such complaint is made

Inspector or Magistrate to proceed if complaint is made to him, or if he has reason to believe that there is ground for a complaint.

to an Inspector or Magistrate, or whenever any Inspector or Magistrate receives notice in writing of any such complaint, or has other reasonable grounds for believing that any employer or person acting on his behalf has personally ill-used, or committed any breach mentioned in section one hundred and thirty-four in respect of, any labourer, such Inspector or Magistrate shall, as soon as may be, proceed to some place not more than ten miles from the principal place of business of such employer situate within the local limits of his jurisdiction, and inquire into the matter complained of:

Provided that, if the place in which an Inspector or Magistrate has reasonable grounds for believing that such ill-usage or breach has been committed is situate beyond the local limits of his jurisdiction, he shall, instead of inquiring into the matter himself, forthwith send information thereof in writing to the Inspector or Magistrate within the local limits of whose jurisdiction such ill-usage or breach has been committed.

For the purposes of an inquiry under this section,

the Inspector or Magistrate may summon and examine any person as a witness.

136. If, upon such inquiry made on the

If complaint is untrue or frivolous.

complaint of a labourer, the Inspector or Magistrate is of opinion that the complaint is untrue or frivolous or vexatious, he shall dismiss the complaint; and in such case shall endorse on the employer's copy of the complainant's labour-contract the number of days during which the complainant has been absent from work in consequence of the inquiry, and the number of days

so endorsed shall be added to the period for which the complainant contracted to labour.

Every such endorsement shall be conclusive evidence that the complainant has absented himself from his labour voluntarily and without reasonable cause during the number of days so endorsed.

137. When any complaint is dismissed under

Award of compensation to employer.

section one hundred and thirty-six, the Inspector or Magistrate may award to the employer any reasonable compensation on account of any expense incurred by him in connection with such complaint, and shall endorse the amount of such compensation on the complainant's copy of the labour-contract. The complainant shall be bound to pay the amount so awarded; and in default of such payment his labour-contract shall not be deemed to have determined until he has worked off such amount at the rate of one day's labour for each four annas of such amount.

138. If, upon such inquiry by a Magistrate

If on inquiry there is sufficient ground for proceeding.

or by an Inspector who is a Magistrate, such Magistrate or Inspector is of opinion that there is sufficient ground for proceeding with the case, he shall dispose of the same according to law. If the Inspector is not a Magistrate and is of such opinion, he shall without delay send the complainant and his witnesses (if any) to the nearest Magistrate; and such Magistrate shall thereupon dispose of the case according to law.

139. If, upon the complaint of any labourer, it is

Recovery of arrears of wages.

proved to the satisfaction of a Magistrate that the wages of such labourer are in arrear for two months, or if the wages of any person whose labour-contract has determined are proved to the satisfaction of a Magistrate to have been withheld for any period after such determination, the Magistrate may award to such labourer or person the amount which appears to be then due to him;

and also, by way of compensation, such further sum, not exceeding that amount, as

to such Magistrate seems just; and, in case of default in payment of the amount so awarded, the Magistrate shall levy such amount by distress and sale of any moveable property belonging to the employer of such labourer or person.

Power to cancel contract on conviction of employer.

140. Whenever it is proved to the satisfaction of a Magistrate—

(a) that any employer, or any person placed by him in authority over any labourer, has been convicted of any offence causing injury to the person, or loss or damage to the property, of such labourer and under the Code of Criminal Procedure triable exclusively by the Court of Session, or

(b) that any employer, or other person as aforesaid, has been twice convicted of any such offence against such labourer and under the said Code triable by a Magistrate, or

(c) that the wages of any labourer are in arrear or if wages are in arrear for more than four months, to an amount exceeding the whole of such labourer's wages for four months, or

(d) that any labourer has been compelled by his employer or by any person placed by his employer

in authority over him to perform any labour while he was unfit for it, or has been subjected to or if ill-usage is ill-usage by his employer or proved.

such Magistrate may, if he thinks fit, on the application of the labourer aggrieved, cancel the labour-contract of such labourer, and award to him compensation not exceeding thirty rupees.

Every such cancellation shall be certified by the Magistrate on the back of the labourer's copy of the labour-contract, or, if the same be not forthcoming, by writing under the Magistrate's hand delivered to the labourer.

I.—Determination of Labour contract.

141. Whenever a labour-contract determines, the employer shall endorse on the labourer's copy of the contract the fact of such determination, or, if such copy be not forthcoming, shall give to the labourer a certificate of such determination; and, if the employer refuses or neglects to do so, the Inspector may, on application by the labourer, make such endorsement or give such certificate.

The employer shall give to the Inspector notice in writing of such determination within one month from the date thereof.

142. If any labourer is able and desirous to redeem the unexpired term of his labour-contract or of the labour-contract of any member of his family, by payment of a sum equivalent to the value of such unexpired term, such labourer may require his employer to take him, or allow him to go, before the Inspector within the local limits of whose jurisdiction he may be employed; and, on his depositing such sum with such Inspector, the Inspector shall give notice to the employer that the labourer requires him, within one week, to show cause why the labourer, the unexpired term of whose contract is proposed to be redeemed, should not be released from his contract. If no sufficient cause is shown, the Inspector shall require such labourer's copy of the contract to be produced, and on production thereof shall endorse thereon a certificate that he has been released under this section from such contract, or, if such copy be not forthcoming, shall deliver to the labourer a certificate under his hand to that effect; and shall in either case hold the sum so deposited to the credit of the employer of such labourer.

The value of the unexpired term of a labour-contract shall, for the purposes of this section, be deemed to be the aggregate amount of one rupee for every month of the unexpired portion of the first year, of three rupees for every such month of the second year, and of five rupees for every such month of the third, fourth and fifth years of the original term of the contract.

CHAPTER VII.

SUPPLEMENTARY POWERS.

143. The Local Government may make rules consistent with this Act—

- (a) to define and regulate the powers and duties of the several officers appointed by it under this Act;

(b) to prescribe what returns and reports shall be made under this Act by any such officers or by any contractors or local agents within the territories under its administration and the form in which they shall be respectively so made;

(c) to prescribe the forms of all registers, licenses, certificates and notices required under this Act with respect to the territories under its administration;

(d) to prescribe the particulars to be registered by a Registering officer in respect of each person who is brought before him in any district under its administration for registration as a labourer or dependent;

(e) to prescribe the fees to be paid for any license granted under this Act by any officer appointed by it and for the registration of labourers or dependents in any district under its administration;

(f) to prescribe the conditions upon which any officer appointed by it may grant licenses to masters of vessels carrying passengers to any labour-district; to provide for the ventilation, cleanliness and water-supply of such vessels in respect of which licenses are granted hereunder by any such officer; and to prescribe the lists, returns and reports to be kept and submitted by the masters of such vessels;

(g) to prescribe the description, quantity and quality of provisions, medical drugs and other stores to be taken on board such vessels carrying labourers when such vessels are within the territories under its administration, and the daily allowance to be issued to each labourer and dependent during the journey through such territories; to prescribe the number of officers, cooks and other servants to be carried on board such vessels, and to provide generally for the accommodation of labourers and their dependents on such vessels;

(h) to provide for the accommodation, food, clothing and medical treatment of all labourers and dependents detained on account of sickness by order of a Magistrate at any place within any district under its administration;

(i) to declare the routes through the territories under its administration by which labourers and their dependents shall not travel to the labour-districts;

(j) to prescribe the house-accommodation, water-supply, sanitary arrangements and amount and kind of food-grains to be provided by employers for their labourers, and to regulate the rations to be supplied to labourers under this Act in the labour-districts under its administration;

(k) to provide for the hospital-accommodation and medical treatment of labourers in such labour-districts, and to prescribe the nature, quality and quantity of medical drugs and other stores to be provided for such labourers;

- (l) to provide for the management and regulation of contractors' depôts and of hospital-depôts situate within the territories under its administration, and for the support and medical treatment of labourers and their dependents passing through such depôts;
- (m) to prescribe the clothing to be supplied to labourers and their dependents while proceeding to the labour-districts through the territories under its administration; and, generally,
- (n) to give effect to the provisions of this Act within the districts subject to its administration.

144. The Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal and the Chief Commissioner of Assam may further respectively make rules consistent with this Act to provide for the detention and inspection of vessels in respect of which licenses are granted hereunder and passengers being natives of India carried thereon while in transit through the territories respectively administered by them.

145. The Local Government may, subject to the control of the Governor General in Council, by rule prescribe as a penalty for the infringement of any rule made by it hereunder, or of any provision of this Act for a breach of which a penalty is not expressly provided, a fine which may extend to five hundred rupees.

All rules made under this Act by the Local Government shall be published in the local official Gazette, and shall thereupon have the force of law.

CHAPTER VIII.

PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE.

146. Whoever knowingly induces or assists, or attempts to induce or assist, any native of India to emigrate in contravention of a notification published under section 6, shall be punished with fine which may extend to fifty rupees for every such native whom he so induces or assists, or attempts to induce or assist.

147. Whoever, being a recruiter, removes, or attempts to remove, any person to a depôt before he has been registered under section thirty-two, or induces or attempts to induce him to go to a depôt or to leave the local limits of the jurisdiction of the Registering officer before whom such person ought to be brought under section thirty-one, or aids or attempts to aid such person in going to a depôt or in leaving any such local limits, before he has been so registered, or induces or attempts to induce any person who has been so registered to proceed to any place other than the depôt which has been established by the contractor on whose behalf such recruiter is licensed, or conveys or attempts to convey him to such place, shall be punished in respect of every such person with fine which may extend to fifty rupees, or with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month.

148. Whoever, being a recruiter or a person deputed by him to accompany labourers to a depôt, fails to provide any labourer or any dependent whom he accompanies on the journey to the depôt with proper and sufficient food and lodging, or otherwise ill-treats such labourer or dependent on such journey, shall be punished with fine which may extend to fifty rupees; and, in default of payment of such fine within twenty-four hours, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month.

The convicting Magistrate may award the whole or any portion of any fine levied under this section as compensation to the labourer in respect of whom, or of whose dependent, such failure or ill-treatment has occurred.

149. Any labourer engaged by a recruiter and who, having been registered under section thirty-two, without reasonable cause refuses or neglects when at the depôt to execute, within thirty days after his arrival at such depôt, a labour-contract in conformity with the terms made known to him when he was registered, shall be punished with fine which may extend to the amount of the expense incurred in registering him and conveying him to the depôt and maintaining him therein; and, in default of payment of such fine, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month. Any labourer so punished may be forthwith discharged from the depôt.

Every fine levied under this section shall be paid to the contractor, sub-contractor or recruiter by whom such expense was incurred.

150. Any labourer registered under section sixty-six who, without reasonable cause, refuses or neglects to execute, within fifteen days from the day on which he was so registered, a labour-contract in conformity with the terms made known to him when he was registered, shall be punished with fine which may extend to twenty rupees or to the amount of the expense reasonably incurred by the garden-sardâr in procuring his registration, whichever amount is least.

Every fine levied under this section shall be paid to the garden-sardâr by whom such expense was incurred.

151. Whoever, being a garden-sardâr, fails, within fourteen days after his arrival in the local area within which he is authorized to enter into contracts under this Act, to report himself to the local agent (if any) specified in his certificate, or

removes or attempts to remove any person to a labour-district before he has been registered as provided by section sixty-six, or

induces or attempts to induce any person to go to a labour-district or to leave the local area specified in the certificate of such sardâr before he has been so registered, or aids or attempts to aid him in proceeding to a labour-district or in leaving any such local area before he has been so registered, or fails without sufficient cause to return to his employer within the time specified in his certificate, or

fails to account for the money advanced to him by his employer for the purpose of engaging labourers, and

whoever being a garden-sardár or a person appointed under section fifty or section seventy-three to accompany labourers to a labour-district wilfully abandons any labourer or his dependant on the way to such district,

shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month.

152. Any garden-sardár who

makes over to any contractor, sub-contractor or recruiter, or to the garden-sardár or local agent of any employer other than the employer by whom his certificate was granted, any persons engaged as labourers by him, or

allows any persons engaged as labourers by any other contractor or sub-contractor or recruiter to share the accommodation provided by him under section fifty-seven, or

places any person engaged as a labourer by him in a contractor's depôt or in the place of accommodation provided by a recruiter in accordance with the provisions of section twenty-seven,

shall be punished with fine which may extend to ten rupees; and his certificate may be impounded by the convicting Magistrate.

Any Magistrate impounding a certificate under this section shall send it for cancellation to the Magistrate by whom it was countersigned.

153. Any garden-sardár or person appointed by

Garden-sardár failing him as provided by section to comply with instructions indorsed on way-bill. seventy-three, who accompanies labourers to the labour-districts, and fails to present a way-bill as required by section seventy-six or to carry out any of the instructions entered in such way-bill, shall be punished with fine which may extend to twenty rupees.

154. Any master not licensed under section

Master receiving native passengers on board in contravention of Act. eighty-nine who, in contravention of section eighty-seven, knowingly receives on board his vessel more than twenty passengers being natives of India, and

any master licensed as aforesaid who knowingly receives on board his vessel any such passengers in excess of the number specified in his license or in any order of an Embarkation Agent under section ninety-one, for the purpose of transporting them to a labour-district,

shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees for each passenger so received.

Nothing in this section applies to the master of a vessel exempted under section eighty-seven.

155. Any master licensed under section eighty-

Fraudulent alteration of vessel after grant of license. nine who with intent to defraud does or suffers to be done any act or thing whereby the state of his vessel is altered, so that such vessel is unfit for the accommodation of the number of passengers specified in his license or in any order made under section ninety-one by an Embarkation Agent, shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

156. Any master licensed as aforesaid who pro-

Master not complying with section 94. ceeds on his voyage with his vessel carrying labourers without having complied with the provisions of section ninety-four shall be punished with fine

which may extend to five hundred rupees, or with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three months.

157. Any master licensed as aforesaid who fails

Master not complying with order under section 96. to comply with an order of an Embarkation Agent made under section ninety-six shall

be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees for each day during which he fails to comply with such order after the day on which the order was received by him.

158. Any master licensed as aforesaid causing

Master permitting labourer to leave vessel contrary to section 98. or permitting a labourer finally to leave his vessel contrary to the provisions of section ninety-eight shall be punished with fine

which may extend to two hundred rupees for each labourer so leaving his vessel.

159. Any master licensed as aforesaid who wil-

Master or officer wilfully omitting to stop vessel at certain places. fully omits to comply with the provisions of section ninety-nine shall be punished

with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

160. Any person who disobeys any order made

Person disobeying Magistrate's order as to communication between vessel and land. under section one hundred and one by a Magistrate shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

161. Any master licensed as aforesaid, or any

Master or medical officer disobeying or neglecting to enforce rules. medical officer in charge of his vessel, who wilfully omits or neglects to obey or enforce on board of such vessel any provision of this Act or any rule made hereunder, shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

162. Any labourer who, having been registered

Labourer deserting, &c., after registration. under section thirty-two or section sixty-six, deserts while on his journey from the district in which he has been so registered to a labour-district, or

without reasonable cause refuses or neglects to proceed from the district in which he has been so registered, or to embark in any vessel when called upon to do so by an Embarkation Agent,

shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three months.

163. Any employer who refuses or wilfully

Employer refusing or omitting to keep registers, &c. omits to keep such registers, or to make such periodical returns in writing to the

Inspector, as may be prescribed by any rule made hereunder, or who knowingly keeps an incorrect register or makes an incorrect return, or who wilfully omits to prepare, file or stick up a schedule as required by section one hundred and fifteen, shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

164. Any employer, or any person acting under

Employer or other person obstructing inspection under section 114. his orders or on his behalf, who wilfully obstructs any entry, inspection or inquiry made under section one hundred and fourteen shall for every such offence be

punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

165. Any employer, or any person acting under his orders or on his behalf, who compels any labourer to perform any labour, knowing that he is at the time unfit to perform such labour, shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

Employer or other person compelling labourer to perform labour for which he is unfit.

166. Any person who buys the rations which have been furnished under section one hundred and twenty-five to any labourer, and any labourer who sells any such rations, shall be punished with fine which may extend to fifty rupees, or with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month.

Persons buying labourer's rations.

167. Any employer who wilfully omits to provide house-accommodation, water-supply, sanitary arrangements, food-grains or rations in accordance with the provisions of this Act or any rule made hereunder, shall be punished with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees; and the convicting Magistrate may order him to comply with such provisions within a reasonable time to be fixed in the order.

If the employer wilfully omits to comply with such order within the time so fixed, he shall be punished with fine which may extend to one hundred rupees for each day during which such omission continues.

If the employer fails to pay the last-mentioned fine, the person on whose account he has been acting shall be liable to pay such fine.

168. Any employer who fails to provide such hospital-accommodation for, or to make such provision for the medical care and treatment of, labourers, as is required by any rule made under this Act, shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees for each week during which such default continues.

Employer neglecting to provide hospital-accommodation.

169. Where any estate or portion thereof has been found under section one hundred and twenty-nine, or declared under section one hundred and thirty-two, unfit for the residence of labourers or any class of labourers, as the case may be, every employer who, until a certificate has been given under section one hundred and thirty-three, causes or permits such labourers or class of labourers to reside or labour upon such estate or portion, shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

Employer causing labourer to reside on estate declared unfit.

170. Every employer may, on or before the fifteenth day of each month, send to the Inspector a statement in writing containing the names of all or any of his labourers who, voluntarily and without reasonable cause, absented themselves from labour during the preceding month, and specifying the periods of such absence. When any employer sends any such statement in writing, he shall at the same time notify to each labourer concerned the fact that he has done so.

Any Inspector who receives any such statement shall, when next visiting the estate on which the labourers to whom such statement relates are employed, inquire into each such case of absence, in the presence of the labourer concerned, and, if satisfied that the labourer has voluntarily and without

reasonable cause absented himself, shall, unless the labourer consents to forfeit to his employer the sum of four annas for each such day of absence, endorse such days of absence on the labour-contract of such labourer, and add them to the term of such contract.

171. Any labourer who, voluntarily and without reasonable cause, absents himself from his labour for more than seven consecutive days, or for more than seven days in any one month, shall be liable to forfeit his wages for the period of such absence, and to pay to his employer a sum not exceeding four annas for each such day of absence, and shall also be liable to imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen days; and in case such absence has extended to twenty days in any two consecutive months, to imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month.

Labourer absent without cause.

Explanation.—Ill-treatment of such labourer by his employer, or failure of the employer to fulfil any condition of the labour-contract binding on the employer, is reasonable cause within the meaning of section one hundred and seventy and this section.

172. If any labourer deserts from his employer's service, such employer, or any person acting on his behalf, may, without a warrant and without the assistance of any police-officer, arrest such labourer wherever he may be found: Provided that, if such labourer be found within five miles of the place where a Magistrate resides or in the service of another employer, he shall not be arrested without warrant.

Every police-officer shall assist in arresting any such labourer if so required by the employer or person acting on his behalf.

Whoever arrests a labourer under this section shall without delay take him to the police-station nearest to the place of the arrest; and if he fails to do so shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

173. The police-officer in charge of such station shall on the appearance of the parties take down in writing the statement of the person arresting the labourer, and shall then forthwith send the labourer to the nearest Magistrate.

Such Magistrate shall either inquire into and dispose of the case himself, or, if the estate of the employer from whose service the labourer deserted is not situate within the local limits of such Magistrate's jurisdiction, he shall forward the labourer to the Magistrate within the local limits of whose jurisdiction such estate is situate.

The Magistrate to whom the labourer is forwarded shall dispose of the case according to law.

174. Whenever an employer or a person acting on his behalf complains to a Magistrate that a labourer has deserted from his employer's service, such Magistrate may, without previously examining the complainant, issue a summons for the attendance of such labourer, or a warrant for his arrest, and fix a day for hearing the complaint.

Procedure on complaint of desertion.

175. Every labourer who deserts from his employer's service shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month. For a second conviction for a like offence he shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two months. For a third and every subsequent conviction for a like offence he shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three months.

176. If it appears to the Magistrate trying a labourer for deserting from his employer's service that such labourer was arrested without sufficient cause, such Magistrate may impose a fine, which may extend to fifty rupees, on the employer or person acting on his behalf by whom, or at whose instance, such labourer was arrested. The Magistrate may in his sentence direct that the whole or any part of such fine be paid by way of compensation to the labourer so arrested.

177. Whenever any labourer has actually suffered imprisonment for terms amounting in the whole to six months for desertion from his employer's service, the Inspector shall cancel the labour-contract of such labourer, and shall endorse on his copy of the contract a certificate of such cancellation; or, if such copy be not forthcoming, he shall give to the labourer a written certificate of such cancellation.

178. Any labourer guilty of habitual drunkenness, or wilfully disregarding any sanitary regulations, approved by the Inspector and duly notified for the guidance of the labourers on the estate on which such labourer is employed, shall be punished with fine which may extend to five rupees or with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one week.

179. The employer of any labourer sentenced to imprisonment for any offence under this Act, or any person authorized to act in this behalf for such employer, may apply to the Magistrate, at any time previous to the expiry of such sentence, that such labourer be made over to him for the purpose of completing his labour-contract. On such application being made, the Magistrate may, if he thinks fit, order that such labourer be made over or forwarded to his employer;

and in that case such Magistrate shall cancel the remainder of the sentence passed on the labourer, and shall endorse on his copy of the labour-contract a certificate of such cancellation, or, if such copy be not forthcoming, shall give him a written certificate of such cancellation.

Nothing in this section shall be deemed to affect the provisions of section one hundred and seventy-seven.

180. Every employer who obtains an order of a Magistrate for the making over or forwarding of any labourer shall be liable to defray the expense (if any) incurred in such making over or forwarding; and shall, before the order is issued, deposit with the Magistrate a sum sufficient in the Magistrate's opinion to defray such expense.

181. On the expiry of any sentence of imprisonment for any offence under this Act, the Magistrate shall, subject to the provisions of section one hundred and seventy-seven, make over such labourer to any person appointed on the part of his employer to take charge of him; and no conviction under this Act, or imprisonment under such conviction, shall, save as aforesaid, operate as a release to any labourer from the terms of his labour-contract:

If no person is present on the part of the employer to take charge of the labourer at the expiry of his sentence, the Magistrate shall forward such labourer to the principal place of business of his employer situate within the local limits of such Magistrate's jurisdiction, and the expense of such forwarding shall be recoverable from such employer as if it were an arrear of land-revenue.

182. When any labourer is convicted under section one hundred and seventy-one of absence from labour or is sentenced to imprisonment for an offence under this Act, the Magistrate so convicting or sentencing him shall endorse on the employer's copy of the labour-contract the period during which such labourer is convicted of being absent from his labour, or the term for which he is sentenced to imprisonment, or both, as the case may be.

The period so endorsed shall be added to the term for which such labourer contracted to serve; and such labourer shall not be deemed to have performed his labour-contract till he has served for the term specified therein in addition to the period so endorsed.

183. Whoever, knowing that any labourer is bound by his labour-contract to labour for any employer, voluntarily entices or attempts to entice such labourer to leave such employer, or harbours or employs any such labourer who has, in contravention of the terms of his labour-contract, left his employer, shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees, or with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one month, or with both.

The convicting Magistrate may in his discretion award to the employer with whom such labourer has contracted the whole or any part of any fine levied under this section.

184. Whoever, being bound by section one hundred and thirty-four to send any labourer before, or to give notice of any complaint to, an Inspector or Magistrate, refuses or neglects so to send such labourer, or to give such notice, shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

185. Any employer who—
 Employer refusing to endorse labour-contract, &c., as required by section 141.
 refuses or wilfully neglects to endorse the labourer's copy of his contract as required by section one hundred and forty-one, or
 detains a labourer after the determination of his labour-contract, or

fails to give to the Inspector notice in writing of such determination within one month of the date thereof,

shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

186. Any employer or person acting for an employer who refuses or neglects to comply with the request of a labourer made under section one hundred and forty-two shall be punished with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

187. Whoever abets within the meaning of the Indian Penal Code any offence against this Act or any rule made hereunder shall be punished with the punishment provided for such offence.

188. Whoever commits any offence against this Act or any rule made hereunder shall be triable for such offence in any place in which he may be found as well as in any other place in which he might be tried under any law for the time being in force.

189. Nothing in this Act shall be deemed to prevent any person from being prosecuted under any other law for any act or omission which constitutes an offence against this Act or the rules made hereunder, or from being liable under any other law to any penalty higher than that provided by this Act for such offence: Provided that no person shall be punished twice for the same offence.

CHAPTER IX.

MISCELLANEOUS.

190. All arrears of wages due under any labour-contract shall be a charge upon the estate upon which the labourer to whom such labour-contract relates has been engaged to labour; or if he has engaged to labour upon any one of several estates managed by the same employer, shall be a charge upon that one of such estates upon which such labourer for the time being actually labours.

191. Whenever an estate on which any labourer has under this Act contracted to labour is transferred by act of parties or operation of law, or devolves, the person to whom it is so transferred or on whom it devolves shall be bound by the labour-contract of such labourer in the same manner and to the same extent as the person by or from whom it is transferred or devolves would have been bound by such contract, and shall have the same rights and remedies under such contract as such person would have had thereunder, if the estate had not been transferred or had not devolved.

No person who has ceased to be the owner of the estate upon which any labourer has under this Act contracted to labour shall be liable in respect of any breach of the labour-contract of such labourer which occurs after he has ceased to be such owner.

192. Subject to the power of a Magistrate under this Act or the Code of Criminal Procedure to award fines in whole or in part as compensation to or for the benefit of any complainant or other person, the Local Government shall credit all fines, fees and rates levied and paid under this Act in the territories under its administration to a fund which shall be called the "Inland Labour Transport Fund;" and such fund shall be at the disposal of such Local Government, in such manner as the Government of India may direct, for paying the salaries and allowances of all officers and establishments appointed under this Act by such Local Government and their pensionary and leave allowances, and generally for defraying the expenses of carrying out the purposes of this Act and the rules of the Local Government made hereunder. The annual surplus accruing in such fund shall be applied to reducing the annual rate or the registration-fees leviable under this Act, and not otherwise.

193. All sums heretofore expended on roads or other communications by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal out of the Inland Labour Transport Fund constituted by the said Bengal Act No. VII of 1873 shall be deemed to have been expended in accordance with law.

194. An Assistant Inspector shall perform all such duties and exercise all such powers of an Inspector as he is authorized in writing by the Inspector to perform or exercise.

195. All powers conferred by this Act on the Local Government or on any Superintendent, Medical Inspector, Emigration Agent or other officer may be exercised from time to time as occasion requires.

THE SCHEDULE.

(See section 9.)

Form of Labour-contract between Labourer and Employer.

This contract, made under the Inland Emigration Act, 1882, between *A B* (hereinafter called the labourer) of the one part, and* [*C D* (agent or local agent or garden-sardar) on behalf of] *E F* (hereinafter called the employer) on the other part, witnesseth that the said* [*agent or local agent or garden-sardar*

on behalf of the said] employer doth hereby promise the said labourer, that if he, the said labourer, do

remain and labour on the
 † As the case may be. X estate † of his said employer
 Y estates

in the labour-district of for the term of years from the date of the execution of this contract, he, the said employer, will, from the date on which the said labourer commences to labour on such estate pay or cause to

be paid to the said labourer monthly wages at the

rate of Rs. ‡ for a completed daily task regulated in accordance with the provisions of the said Act, and, when such task is not completed, monthly wages calculated at the same rate in proportion to the amount of work actually done, and that during such period he, the said employer, will supply to the said labourer

rice at a price of Rs. — per maund, and will faithfully comply with all rules regarding house-accommodation, medical treatment, and the supply of food-grains or rations to the said labourer, which the Local Government may from time to time prescribe; and this contract further witnesseth that the said labourer doth hereby, in consideration of the aforesaid promise, agree so to remain and labour for the said employer. In witness whereof the said parties to these presents have hereunto set their hands at this day of 18 .

Signature of labourer and of employer (or of his agent, local agent or garden-sardár).

Form of Description of Labourer.

| NAME. | Father's Name. | Age. | Sex. | Caste. | RESIDENCE. | | | Descriptive marks. |
|-------|----------------|------|------|--------|------------|--------|----------|--------------------|
| | | | | | District. | Tháná. | Village. | |
| | | | | | | | | |

[Endorsement to be filled up by Registering officer before whom the contract is executed.]

I hereby certify that, before the said A B signed this contract, I personally explained it to him.

Signed _____
 Registering officer.

[Endorsement on labourer's copy of contract, to be left blank until the contract is determined.]

I hereby certify that the foregoing contract has been determined by effluxion of time (or by mutual consent, or under the provisions of section — of Act , as the case may be).

Dated at

This day of

} Signature of Employer or of Inspector.

R. J. CROSTHWAITE,
 Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

[Second Publication.]

The following Act of the Governor General of India in Council received the assent of His Excellency the Governor General on the 13th January, 1882, and is hereby promulgated for general information :—

ACT No. II OF 1882.

THE INDIAN TRUSTS ACT, 1882.

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THE SCHEDULE.

An Act to define and amend the law relating to Private Trusts and Trustees.

WHEREAS it is expedient to define and amend the law relating to private trusts and trustees; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

CHAPTER I.

PRELIMINARY.

1. This Act may be called "The Indian Trusts Act, 1882": and it shall come into force on the first day of March, 1882.

It extends in the first instance to the territories respectively administered by the Governor of Madras in Council, the Lieutenant-Governors of the North-West Provinces and the Panjab, the Chief Commissioners of Oudh, the Central Provinces, Coorg and Assam; and the Local Government may from time to time, by notification in the official Gazette, extend it to any other part of British India. But nothing herein contained affects the rules of Muhammadan law as to *waqf*, or the mutual relations of the members of an undivided family as determined by any customary or personal law, or applies to public or private religious or charitable endowments, or to trusts to distribute prizes taken in war among the captors; and nothing in the second chapter of this Act applies to trusts created before the said day.

2. The Statute and Acts mentioned in the Schedule hereto annexed shall, to the extent mentioned in the said schedule, be repealed in the territories to which this Act for the time being extends.

3. A "trust" is an obligation annexed to the ownership of property, and arising out of a confidence reposed in and accepted by the owner, or declared and accepted by him, for the benefit of another, or of another and the owner: the person who reposes or declares the confidence is called the "author of the trust": the person who accepts the confidence is called the "trustee": the person for whose benefit the confidence is accepted is called the "beneficiary": the subject-matter of the trust is called "trust-property" or "trust-money": the "beneficial interest" or "interest" of the beneficiary is his right against the trustee as owner of the trust-property; and the instrument, if any, by which the trust is declared is called the "instrument of trust":

a breach of any duty imposed on a trustee, as such, by any law for the time being in force, is called a "breach of trust":

and in this Act, unless there be something repugnant in the subject or context, "registered" means registered under the law for the registration of documents for the time being in force: a person is said to have "notice" of a fact either when he actually knows that fact or when, but for wilful abstention from inquiry or gross negligence, he would have known it, or when information of the fact is given to or obtained by his agent, under the circumstances mentioned in the Indian Contract Act, 1872, section 229; and all expressions used herein and defined in the Indian Contract Act, 1872, shall be deemed to have the meanings respectively attributed to them by that Act.

CHAPTER II.

OF THE CREATION OF TRUSTS.

4. A trust may be created for any lawful purpose. The purpose of a trust is lawful unless it is (a) forbidden by law, or (b) is of such a nature that, if permitted, it would defeat the provisions of any law, or (c) is fraudulent, or (d) involves or implies injury to the person or property of another, or (e) the Court regards it as immoral or opposed to public policy.

Every trust of which the purpose is unlawful is void. And where a trust is created for two purposes, of which one is lawful and the other unlawful, and the two purposes cannot be separated, the whole trust is void.

Explanation.—In this section, the expression "law" includes, where the trust-property is immoveable and situate in a foreign country, the law of such country.

Illustrations:

(a) A conveys property to B in trust to apply the profits to the nurture of female foundlings to be trained up as prostitutes. The trust is void.

(b) A bequeaths property to B in trust to employ it in carrying on a smuggling business, and out of the profits thereof to support A's children. The trust is void.

(c) A, while in insolvent circumstances, transfers property to B in trust for A during his life, and after his death for B. A is declared an insolvent. The trust for A is invalid as against his creditors.

5. No trust in relation to immoveable property is valid unless declared by a non-testamentary instrument in writing signed by the author of the trust or the trustee and registered, or by the will of the author of the trust or of the trustee.

No trust in relation to moveable property is valid unless declared as aforesaid, or unless the ownership of the property is transferred to the trustee. These rules do not apply where they would operate so as to effectuate a fraud.

6. Subject to the provisions of section five, a trust is created when the author of the trust indicates with reasonable certainty by any words or acts (a) an intention on his part to create thereby a trust, (b) the purpose of the trust, (c) the beneficiary, and (d) the trust-property, and (unless the trust is declared by will or the author of the trust is himself to be the trustee) transfers the trust-property to the trustee.

Illustrations.

(a) A bequeaths certain property to B, "having the fullest confidence that he will dispose of it for the benefit of C." This creates a trust so far as regards A and C.

(b) A bequeaths certain property to B, "hoping he will continue it in the family." This does not create a trust, as the beneficiary is not indicated with reasonable certainty.

(c) A bequeaths certain property to B, requesting him to distribute it amongst such members of C's family as B should think most deserving. This does not create a trust, for the beneficiaries are not indicated with reasonable certainty.

(d) A bequeaths certain property to B, desiring him to divide the bulk of it among C's children. This does not create a trust, for the trust-property is not indicated with sufficient certainty.

(e) A bequeaths a shop and stock-in-trade to B, on condition that he pays A's debts and a legacy to C. This is a condition, not a trust for A's creditors and C.

Who may create trusts.

7. A trust may be created—
(a) by every person competent to contract, and,
(b) with the permission of a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction, by or on behalf of a minor;

but subject in each case to the law for the time being in force as to the circumstances and extent in and to which the author of the trust may dispose of the trust-property.

8. The subject-matter of a trust must be property transferable to the beneficiary.

It must not be a merely beneficial interest under a subsisting trust.

9. Every person capable of holding property may be a beneficiary.

A proposed beneficiary may renounce his interest under the trust by disclaimer addressed to the trustee, or by setting up, with notice of the trust, a claim inconsistent therewith.

10. Every person capable of holding property may be a trustee; but where the trust involves the exercise of discretion, he cannot execute it unless he is competent to contract.

No one bound to accept a trust. No one is bound to accept a trust.

A trust is accepted by any words or acts of the trustee indicating with reasonable certainty such acceptance.

Instead of accepting a trust, the intended trustee may, within a reasonable period, disclaim it, and such disclaimer shall prevent the trust-property from vesting in him.

A disclaimer by one of two or more co-trustees vests the trust-property in the other or others, and makes him or them sole trustee or trustees from the date of the creation of the trust.

Illustrations.

(a) A bequeaths certain property to B and C, his executors, as trustees for D. B and C prove A's will. This is in itself an acceptance of the trust, and B and C hold the property in trust for D.

(b) A transfers certain property to B in trust to sell it and to pay out of the proceeds A's debts. B accepts the trust and sells the property. So far as regards B a trust of the proceeds is created for A's creditors.

(c) A bequeaths a lakh of rupees to B upon certain trusts and appoints him his executor. B severs the lakh from the general assets and appropriates it to the specific purpose. This is an acceptance of the trust.

CHAPTER III.

OF THE DUTIES AND LIABILITIES OF TRUSTEES.

11. The trustee is bound to fulfil the purpose of the trust, and to obey the directions of the author of the trust given at the time of its creation, except as modified by the consent of all the beneficiaries being competent to contract.

Where the beneficiary is incompetent to contract, his consent may, for the purposes of this section, be given by a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction.

Nothing in this section shall be deemed to require a trustee to obey any direction when to do so would be impracticable, illegal or manifestly injurious to the beneficiaries.

Explanation.—Unless a contrary intention be expressed, the purpose of a trust for the payment of debts shall be deemed to be (a) to pay only the debts of the author of the trust existing and recoverable at the date of the instrument of trust, or, when such instrument is a will, at the date of his death, and (b) in the case of debts not bearing interest, to make such payment without interest.

Illustrations.

(a) A, a trustee, is simply authorized to sell certain land by public auction. He cannot sell the land by private contract.

(b) A, a trustee of certain land for X, Y and Z, is authorized to sell the land to B for a specified sum. X, Y and Z, being competent to contract, consent that A may sell the land to C for a less sum. A may sell the land accordingly.

(c) A, a trustee for B and her children, is directed by the author of the trust to lend, on B's request, trust-property to B's husband, C, on the security of his bond. C becomes insolvent, and B requests A to make the loan. A may refuse to make it.

12. A trustee is bound to acquaint himself, as soon as possible, with the nature and circumstances of the trust-property; to obtain where necessary, a transfer of the trust-property to himself; and (subject to the provisions of the instrument of trust) to get in trust-moneys invested on insufficient or hazardous security.

Illustrations.

(a) The trust-property is a debt outstanding on personal security. The instrument of trust gives the trustee no discretionary power to leave the debt so outstanding. The trustee's duty is to recover the debt without unnecessary delay.

(b) The trust-property is money in the hands of one of two co-trustees. No discretionary power is given by the instrument of trust. The other co-trustee must not allow the former to retain the money for a longer period than the circumstances of the case required.

13. A trustee is bound to maintain and defend all such suits, and (subject to the provisions of the instrument of trust) to take such other steps as, regard being had to the nature and amount or value of the trust-property, may be reasonably requisite for the preservation of the trust-property and the assertion or protection of the title thereto.

Illustration.

The trust-property is immoveable property which has been given to the author of the trust by an unregistered instrument. Subject to the provisions of the Indian Registration Act, 1877, the trustee's duty is to cause the instrument to be registered.

14. The trustee must not for himself or another trustee not to set-up set-up or aid any title to the title adverse to beneficiary. trust-property adverse to the interest of the beneficiary.

15. A trustee is bound to deal with the trust-property as carefully as a man of ordinary prudence would deal with such property if it were his own; and, in the absence of a contract to the contrary, a trustee so dealing is not responsible for the loss, destruction or deterioration of the trust-property.

Illustrations.

(a) A, living in Calcutta, is a trustee for B, living in Bombay. A remits trust-funds to B by bills drawn by a person of undoubted credit in favour of the trustee as such, and payable at Bombay. The bills are dishonoured. A is not bound to make good the loss.

(b) A, a trustee of leasehold property, directs the tenant to pay the rents on account of the trust to a banker, B, then in credit. The rents are accordingly paid to B, and A leaves the money with B only till wanted. Before the money is drawn out, B becomes insolvent. A, having had no reason to believe that B was in insolvent circumstances, is not bound to make good the loss.

(c) A, a trustee of two debts for B, releases one and compounds the other, in good faith, and reasonably believing that it is for B's interest to do so. A is not bound to make good any loss caused thereby to B.

(d) A, a trustee directed to sell the trust-property by auction, sells the same, but does not advertise the sale and otherwise fails in reasonable diligence in inviting competition. A is bound to make good the loss caused thereby to the beneficiary.

(e) A, a trustee for B, in execution of his trust, sells the trust-property, but from want of due diligence on his part fails to receive part of the purchase-money. A is bound to make good the loss thereby caused to B.

(f) A, a trustee for B of a policy of insurance, has funds in hand for payment of the premiums. A neglects to pay the premiums, and the policy is consequently forfeited. A is bound to make good the loss to B.

(g) A bequeaths certain monies to B and C as trustees and authorizes them to continue trust-moneys upon the personal security of a certain firm in which A had himself invested them. A dies, and a change takes place in the firm. B and C must not permit the monies to remain upon the personal security of the new firm.

(h) A, a trustee for B, allows the trust to be executed solely by his co-trustee, C. C misapplies the trust-property. A is personally answerable for the loss resulting to B.

16. Where the trust is created for the benefit of several persons in succession; and the trust-property is of a wasting nature or a future or reversionary

interest, the trustee is bound, unless an intention to the contrary may be inferred from the instrument of trust, to convert the property into property of a permanent and immediately profitable character.

Illustrations.

(a) A bequeaths to B all his property in trust for C during his life, and on his death for D, and on D's death for E. A's property consists of three leasehold houses, and there is nothing in A's will to show that he intended the houses to be enjoyed in specie. B should sell the houses, and invest the proceeds in accordance with section twenty.

(b) A bequeaths to B his three leasehold houses in Calcutta and all the furniture therein in trust for C during his life, and on his death for D, and on D's death for E. Here an intention that the houses and furniture should be enjoyed in specie appears clearly, and B should not sell them.

17. Where there are more beneficiaries than one the trustee is bound to be impartial, and must not execute the trust for the advantage of one at the expense of another.

Where the trustee has a discretionary power, nothing in this section shall be deemed to authorize the Court to control the exercise reasonably and in good faith of such discretion.

Illustration.

A, a trustee for B, C and D, is empowered to choose between several specified modes of investing the trust-property. A in good faith chooses one of these modes. The Court will not interfere, although the result of the choice may be to vary the relative rights of B, C and D.

18. Where the trust is created for the benefit of several persons in succession and one of them is in possession of the trust-property, if he commits, or threatens to commit, any act which is active or permanently injurious thereto, he is bound to take measures to prevent such act.

19. A trustee is bound (a) to keep clear and accurate accounts of the trust-property, and (b), at all reasonable times, at the request of the beneficiary, to furnish him with full and accurate information as to the amount and state of the trust-property.

20. Where the trust-property consists of money and cannot be applied immediately or at an early date to the purposes of the trust, the trustee is bound (subject to any direction contained in the instrument of trust) to invest the money on the following securities, and on no others:—

(a) in promissory notes, debentures, stock or other securities of the Government of India, or of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland;

(b) in bonds, debentures and annuities charged by the Imperial Parliament on the revenues of India;

(c) in stock or debentures of, or shares in, Railway or other Companies the interest whereon shall have been guaranteed by the Secretary of State for India in Council;

(d) in debentures or other securities for money issued by, or on behalf of, any municipal body under the authority of any Act of a legislature established in British India;

(e) on a first mortgage of immovable property situate in British India: Provided that the property is not a leasehold for a term of years and

that the value of the property exceeds by one-third, or, if consisting of buildings, exceeds by one-half, the mortgage-money; or

(f) on any other security expressly authorized by the instrument of trust, or by any rule which the High Court may from time to time prescribe in this behalf.

Provided that, where there is a person competent to contract, and entitled in possession to receive the income of the trust-property for his life, or for any greater estate, no investment on any security mentioned or referred to in clauses (d), (e) and (f) shall be made without his consent in writing.

21. Nothing in section twenty shall apply to Mortgage of land investments made before this Act comes into force, or shall be deemed to preclude an investment on a mortgage of immovable property already pledged as security for an advance under the Land Improvement Act, 1871, or, in case the trust-money does not exceed three thousand rupees, a deposit thereof in a Government Savings Bank.

22. Where a trustee directed to sell within a specified time extends such time, the burden of proving, as between himself and the beneficiary, that the latter is not prejudiced by the extension lies upon the trustee, unless the extension has been authorized by a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction.

Illustration.

A bequeaths property to B, directing him with all convenient speed and within five years to sell it, and apply the proceeds for the benefit of C. In the exercise of reasonable discretion, B postpones the sale for six years. The sale is not thereby rendered invalid, but C, alleging that he has been injured by the postponement, institutes a suit against B to obtain compensation. In such suit the burden of proving that C has not been injured lies on B.

23. Where the trustee commits a breach of trust, he is liable to make good the loss which the trust-property or the beneficiary has thereby sustained, unless the beneficiary has by fraud induced the trustee to commit the breach, or the beneficiary, being competent to contract, has himself, without coercion or undue influence having been brought to bear on him, concurred in the breach, or subsequently acquiesced therein, with full knowledge of the facts of the case and of his rights as against the trustee.

A trustee committing a breach of trust is not liable to pay interest except in the following cases:—

(a) where he has actually received interest;
(b) where the breach consists in unreasonable delay in paying trust-money to the beneficiary;
(c) where the trustee ought to have received interest, but has not done so;
(d) where he may be fairly presumed to have received interest.

He is liable, in case (a), to account for the interest actually received, and, in cases (b), (c) and (d), to account for simple interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum, unless the Court otherwise directs.

(e) where the breach consists in failure to invest trust-money and to accumulate the interest or dividends thereon, he is liable to account for compound interest (with half-yearly rests) at the same rate.

(f) Where the breach consists in the employment of trust-property or the proceeds thereof in trade or business, he is liable to account, at the option of the beneficiary, either for compound interest (with half-yearly rests) at the same rate, or for the nett profits made by such employment.

Illustrations.

(a) A trustee improperly leaves trust-property outstanding, and it is consequently lost: he is liable to make good the property lost, but he is not liable to pay interest thereon.

(b) A bequeaths a house to B in trust to sell it and pay the proceeds to C. B neglects to sell the house for a great length of time, whereby the house is deteriorated and its market price falls. B is answerable to C for the loss.

(c) A trustee is guilty of unreasonable delay in investing trust-money in accordance with section twenty, or in paying it to the beneficiary. The trustee is liable to pay interest thereon for the period of the delay.

(d) The duty of the trustee is to invest trust-money in any of the securities mentioned in section twenty, clause (a), (b), (c) or (d). Instead of so doing, he retains the money in his hands. He is liable, at the option of the beneficiary, to be charged either with the amount of the principal money and interest, or with the amount of such securities as he might have purchased with the trust-money when the investment should have been made, and the intermediate dividends and interest thereon.

(e) The instrument of trust directs the trustee to invest trust-money either in any of such securities or on mortgage of immovable property. The trustee does neither. He is liable for the principal money and interest.

(f) The instrument of trust directs the trustee to invest trust-money in any of such securities and to accumulate the dividends thereon. The trustee disregards the direction. He is liable, at the option of the beneficiary, to be charged either with the amount of the principal money and compound interest, or with the amount of such securities as he might have purchased with the trust-money when the investment should have been made, together with the amount of the accumulation which would have arisen from a proper investment of the intermediate dividends.

(g) Trust-property is invested in one of the securities mentioned in section twenty, clause (a), (b), (c) or (d). The trustee sells such security for some purpose not authorized by the terms of the instrument of trust. He is liable, at the option of the beneficiary, either to replace the security with the intermediate dividends and interest thereon, or to account for the proceeds of the sale with interest thereon.

(h) The trust-property consists of land. The trustee sells the land to a purchaser for a consideration without notice of the trust. The trustee is liable, at the option of the beneficiary, to purchase other land of equal value to be settled upon the like trust, or to be charged with the proceeds of the sale with interest.

24. A trustee who is liable for a loss occasioned by a breach of trust in respect of one portion of the trust-property cannot set-off against his liability a gain which has accrued to another portion of the trust-property through another and distinct breach of trust.

25. Where a trustee succeeds another, he is not, as such, liable for the acts or defaults of his predecessor.

26. Subject to the provisions of sections thirteen and fifteen, one trustee is not, as such, liable for a breach of trust committed by his co-trustee:

Provided that, in the absence of an express declaration to the contrary in the instrument of trust, a trustee is so liable—

(a) where he has delivered trust-property to his co-trustee without seeing to its proper application:

(b) where he allows his co-trustee to receive trust-property and fails to make due enquiry as to the co-trustee's dealings therewith, or allows him

to retain it longer than the circumstances of the case reasonably require:

(c) where he becomes aware of a breach of trust committed or intended by his co-trustee, and either actively conceals it or does not within a reasonable time take proper steps to protect the beneficiary's interest.

A co-trustee who joins in signing a receipt for trust-property and proves that he has not received the same is not answerable, by reason of such signature only, for loss or misapplication of the property by his co-trustee.

Illustration.

A bequeaths certain property to B and C, and directs them to sell it and invest the proceeds for the benefit of D. B and C accordingly sell the property, and the purchase-money is received by B and retained in his hands. C pays no attention to the matter for two years and then calls on B to make the investment. B is unable to do so, becomes insolvent, and the purchase-money is lost. C may be compelled to make good the amount.

27. Where co-trustees jointly commit a breach of trust, or where one of them by his neglect enables the other to commit a breach of trust, each is liable to the beneficiary for the whole of the loss occasioned by such breach.

But as between the trustees themselves, if one be less guilty than another and has had to refund the loss, the former may compel the or his legal representative to the extent of assets he has received, to make good such loss. If all be equally guilty, any one or more of the trustees who has had to refund the loss may compel the others to contribute.

Nothing in this section shall be deemed to authorize a trustee who has been guilty of fraud to institute a suit to compel contribution.

28. When any beneficiary's interest becomes vested in another person, and the trustee, not having notice of the vesting, pays or delivers trust-property to the person who would have been entitled thereto in the absence of such vesting, the trustee is not liable for the property so paid or delivered.

29. When the beneficiary's interest is forfeited or awarded by legal adjudication to Government, the trustee is bound to hold the trust-property to the extent of such interest for the benefit of such person in such manner as the Government may direct in this behalf.

30. Subject to the provisions of the instrument of trust and of sections twenty-three and twenty-six, trustees shall be respectively chargeable only for such moneys, stocks, funds and securities as they respectively actually receive, and shall not be answerable the one for the other of them, nor for any banker, broker or other person in whose hands any trust-property may be placed, nor for the insufficiency or deficiency of any stocks, funds or securities, nor otherwise for involuntary losses.

CHAPTER IV.

OF THE RIGHTS AND POWERS OF TRUSTEES.

31. A trustee is entitled to have in his possession the instrument of trust and all the documents of title (if any) relating solely to the trust-property.

Right to title-deeds.

32. Every trustee may reimburse himself, or pay or discharge out of the trust-property, all expenses properly incurred in or about the execution of the trust, or the realization, preservation or benefit of the trust-property, or the protection or support of the beneficiary.

Right to reimbursement of expenses.

If he pays such expenses out of his own pocket he has a first charge upon the trust-property for such expenses and interest thereon; but such charge (unless the expenses have been incurred with the sanction of a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction) shall be enforced only by prohibiting any disposition of the trust-property without previous payment of such expenses and interest.

If the trust-property fail, the trustee is entitled to recover from the beneficiary personally or whose behalf he acted, and at whose request, expressed or implied, he made the payment, the amount of such expenses.

Where a trustee has by mistake made an over-payment to the beneficiary, he may reimburse the trust-property out of the beneficiary's interest. If such interest fail, the trustee is entitled to recover from the beneficiary personally the amount of such overpayment.

Right to be recouped for erroneous overpayment.

33. A person other than a trustee who has gained an advantage from a breach of trust must indemnify the trustee to the extent of the amount actually received by such person under the breach; and where he is a beneficiary the trustee has a charge on his interest for such amount.

Right to indemnity from gainer by breach of trust.

Nothing in this section shall be deemed to entitle a trustee to be indemnified who has, in committing the breach of trust, been guilty of fraud.

34. Any trustee may, without instituting a suit apply by petition to a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction for its opinion, advice or direction on any present questions respecting the management or administration of the trust-property other than questions of detail, difficulty or importance, not proper in the opinion of the Court for summary disposal.

Right to apply to Court for opinion in management of trust-property.

A copy of such petition shall be served upon, and the hearing thereof may be attended by, such of the persons interested in the application as the Court thinks fit.

The trustee stating in good faith the facts in such petition and acting upon the opinion, advice or direction given by the Court shall be deemed, so far as regards his own responsibility, to have discharged his duty as such trustee in the subject-matter of the application.

The costs of every application under this section shall be in the discretion of the Court to which it is made.

35. When the duties of a trustee, as such, are completed, he is entitled to have the accounts of his administration of the trust-property examined and settled; and, where nothing is due to the beneficiary under the trust, to an acknowledgment in writing to that effect.

Right to settlement of accounts.

36. In addition to the powers expressly conferred by this Act and by the instrument of trust, and subject to the restrictions, if any, contained in such instrument, and to the provisions of section seventeen, a trustee may do all acts which are reasonable and proper for the realization, protection or benefit of the trust-property, and for the protection or support of a beneficiary who is not competent to contract.

General authority of trustee.

Every trustee in the actual possession or receipt of the rents and profits of land as defined in the Land Improvement Act, 1871, shall, for the purpose of that Act, be deemed to be a landlord in possession.

Except with the permission of a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction, no trustee shall lease trust-property for a term exceeding twenty-one years from the date of executing the lease, nor without reserving the best yearly rent that can be reasonably obtained.

37. Where the trustee is empowered to sell any trust-property, he may sell the same subject to prior charges or not, and either together or in lots, by public auction or private contract, and either at one time or at several times, unless the instrument of trust otherwise directs.

Power to sell in lots, and either by public auction or private contract.

38. The trustee making any such sale may insert such reasonable stipulations either as to title or evidence of title, or otherwise, in any conditions of sale or contract for sale, as he thinks fit; and may also buy in the property or any part thereof at any sale by auction, and rescind or vary any contract for sale, and re-sell the property so bought in, or as to which the contract is so rescinded, without being responsible to the beneficiary for any loss occasioned thereby.

Power to sell under special conditions.

Where a trustee is directed to sell trust-property or to invest trust-money in the purchase of property, he may exercise a reasonable discretion as to the time of effecting the sale or purchase.

Time allowed for selling trust-property.

Illustrations.

(a) A bequeaths property to B, directing him to sell it with all convenient speed and pay the proceeds to C. This does not render an immediate sale imperative.

(b) A bequeaths property to B, directing him to sell it at such time and in such manner as he shall think fit and invest the proceeds for the benefit of C. This does not authorize B, as between him and C, to postpone the sale to an indefinite period.

39. For the purpose of completing any such sale, the trustee shall have power to convey or otherwise dispose of the property sold in such manner as may be necessary.

Power to convey.

40. A trustee may, at his discretion, call in any trust-property invested in any security and invest the same on any of the securities mentioned or referred to in section twenty, and from time to time vary any such investments for others of the same nature.

Provided that, where there is a person competent to contract and entitled at the time to receive the income of the trust-property for his life, or for any greater estate, no such change of investment shall be made without his consent in writing.

41. Where any property is held by a trustee in trust for a minor, such trustee may, at his discretion, pay to the guardians (if any) of such minor, or otherwise apply for or towards his maintenance or education or advancement in life, or the reasonable expenses of his religious worship, marriage or funeral, the whole or any part of the income to which he may be entitled in respect of such property; and such trustee shall accumulate all the residue of such income by way of compound interest, by investing the same and the resulting income thereof from time to time in any of the securities mentioned or referred to in section twenty, for the benefit of the person who shall ultimately become entitled to the property from which such accumulations have arisen: Provided that such trustee may, at any time, if he thinks fit, apply the whole or any part of such accumulations as if the same were part of the income arising in the then current year.

Where the income of the trust-property is insufficient for the minor's maintenance or education or advancement in life, or the reasonable expenses of his religious worship, marriage or funeral, the trustee may, with the permission of a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction, but not otherwise, apply the whole or any part of such property for or towards such maintenance, education, advancement or expenses.

Nothing in this section shall be deemed to affect the provisions of any local law for the time being in force relating to the persons and property of minors.

42. Any trustees or trustee may give a receipt in writing for any money, securities or other moveable property payable, transferable or deliverable to them or him by reason, or in the exercise, of any trust or power; and, in the absence of fraud, such receipt shall discharge the person paying, transferring or delivering the same therefrom, and from seeing to the application thereof, or being accountable for any loss or misapplication thereof.

43. Two or more trustees acting together may, if and as they think fit—

- (a) accept any composition or any security for any debt or for any property claimed;
- (b) allow any time for payment of any debt;
- (c) compromise, compound, abandon, submit to arbitration or otherwise, settle any debt, account, claim or thing whatever relating to the trust; and,
- (d) for any of those purposes, enter into, give, execute and do such agreements, instruments of composition or arrangement, releases and other things as to them seem expedient, without being responsible for any loss occasioned by any act or thing so done by them in good faith.

The powers conferred by this section on two or more trustees acting together may be exercised by a sole acting trustee when by the instrument of trust, if any, a sole trustee is authorized to execute the trusts and powers thereof.

This section applies only if and as far as a contrary intention is not expressed in the instrument of trust, if any, and shall have effect subject to the terms of that instrument and to the provisions therein contained.

This section applies only to trusts created after this Act comes into force.

44. When an authority to deal with the trust-property is given to several trustees and one of them disclaims or dies, the authority may be exercised by the continuing trustees, unless from the terms of the instrument of trust it is apparent that the authority is to be exercised by a number in excess of the number of the remaining trustees.

45. Where a decree has been made in a suit for the execution of a trust, the trustee must not exercise any of his powers except in conformity with such decree, or with the sanction of the Court by which the decree has been made, or, where an appeal against the decree is pending, of the Appellate Court.

CHAPTER V.

OF THE DISABILITIES OF TRUSTEES.

46. A trustee who has accepted the trust cannot afterwards renounce it except (a) with the permission of a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction, or (b), if the beneficiary is competent to contract, with his consent, or (c) by virtue of a special power in the instrument of trust.

47. A trustee cannot delegate his office or any of his duties either to a trustee or to a stranger, unless (a) the instrument of trust so provides, or (b) the delegation is in the regular course of business, or (c) the delegation is necessary, or (d) the beneficiary, being competent to contract, consents to the delegation.

Explanation.—The appointment of an attorney or proxy to do an act merely ministerial and involving no independent discretion is not a delegation within the meaning of this section.

Illustrations.

- (a) A bequeaths certain property to B and C on certain trusts to be executed by them or the survivor of them or the assigns of such survivor. B dies. C may bequeath the trust-property to D and E upon the trusts of A's will.
- (b) A is a trustee of certain property with power to sell the same. A may employ an auctioneer to effect the sale.
- (c) A bequeaths to B fifty houses let at monthly rents in trust to collect the rents and pay them to C. B may employ a proper person to collect these rents.

48. When there are more trustees than one, all must join in the execution of the trust, except where the instrument of trust otherwise provides.

49. Where a discretionary power conferred on a trustee is not exercised reasonably and in good faith, such power may be controlled by a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction.

50. In the absence of express directions to the Trustee may not charge contrary contained in the instrument of trust or of a contract to the contrary entered into with the beneficiary or the Court at the time of accepting the trust, a trustee has no right to remuneration for his trouble, skill and loss of time in executing the trust.

Nothing in this section applies to any Official Trustee, Administrator General, Public Curator, or person holding a certificate of administration.

51. A trustee may not use or deal with the Trust-property for his own profit or for any other purpose unconnected with the trust.

52. No trustee whose duty it is to sell trust-property, and no agent employed by such trustee for the purpose of the sale, may, directly or indirectly, buy the same or any interest therein, on his own account or as agent for a third person.

53. No trustee, and no person who has recently ceased to be a trustee, may, without the permission of a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction, buy or become mortgagee or lessee of the trust-property or any part thereof; and such permission shall not be given unless the proposed purchase, mortgage or lease is manifestly for the advantage of the beneficiary.

And no trustee whose duty it is to buy or to obtain a mortgage or lease of particular property for the beneficiary may buy it, or any part thereof, or obtain a mortgage or lease of it, or any part thereof, for himself.

54. A trustee or co-trustee whose duty it is to invest trust-money on mortgage or personal security must not invest it on a mortgage by, or on the personal security of, himself or one of his co-trustees.

CHAPTER VI.

OF THE RIGHTS AND LIABILITIES OF THE BENEFICIARY.

55. The beneficiary has, subject to the provisions of the instrument of trust, a right to the rents and profits of the trust-property.

56. The beneficiary is entitled to have the intention of the author of the trust specifically executed to the extent of the beneficiary's interest;

and, where there is only one beneficiary and he is competent to contract, or where there are several beneficiaries and they are competent to contract and all of one mind, he or they may require the trustee to transfer the trust-property to him or them, or to such person as he or they may direct.

When property has been transferred or bequeathed for the benefit of a married woman, so that she shall not have power to deprive herself of her beneficial interest, nothing in the second clause of this section applies to such property during her marriage.

Illustrations.

(a) Certain Government securities are given to trustees

upon trust to accumulate the interest until A attains the age of 24, and then to transfer the gross amount to him. A on attaining majority may, as the person exclusively interested in the trust-property, require the trustees to transfer it immediately to him.

(b) A bequeaths Rs. 10,000 to trustees upon trust to purchase an annuity for B, who has attained his majority and is otherwise competent to contract. B may claim the Rs. 10,000.

(c) A transfers certain property to B and directs him to sell or invest it for the benefit of C, who is competent to contract. C may elect to take the property in its original character.

57. The beneficiary has a right, as against the trustee and all persons claiming under him with notice of the trust, to inspect and take copies of the instrument of trust, the documents of title relating solely to the trust-property, the accounts of the trust-property and the vouchers (if any) by which they are supported, and the cases submitted and opinions taken by the trustee for his guidance in the discharge of his duty.

58. The beneficiary, if competent to contract, may transfer his interest, but subject to the law for the time being in force as to the circumstances and extent in and to which he may dispose of such interest.

Provided that when property is transferred or bequeathed for the benefit of a married woman, so that she shall not have power to deprive herself of her beneficial interest, nothing in this section shall authorize her to transfer such interest during her marriage.

59. Where no trustees are appointed or all the trustees die, disclaim or are discharged, or where for any other reason the execution of a trust by the trustee is or becomes impracticable, the beneficiary may institute a suit for the execution of the trust, and the trust shall, so far as may be possible, be executed by the Court until the appointment of a trustee or new trustee.

60. The beneficiary has a right (subject to the provisions of the instrument of trust) that the trust-property shall be properly protected and held and administered by proper persons and by a proper number of such persons.

Explanation I.—The following are not proper persons within the meaning of this section:—

A person domiciled abroad; an alien enemy; a person having an interest inconsistent with that of the beneficiary; a person in insolvent circumstances; and, unless the personal law of the beneficiary allows otherwise, a married woman and a minor.

Explanation II.—When the administration of the trust involves the receipt and custody of money, the number of trustees should be two at least.

Illustrations.

(a) A, one of several beneficiaries, proves that B, the trustee, has improperly disposed of part of the trust-property, or that the property is in danger from B's being in insolvent circumstances, or that he is incapacitated from acting as trustee. A may obtain a receiver of the trust-property.

(b) A bequeaths certain jewels to B in trust for C. B dies during A's lifetime; then A dies. C is entitled to have the property conveyed to a trustee for him.

(c) A conveys certain property to four trustees in trust for B. Three of the trustees die. B may institute a suit to have three new trustees appointed in the place of the deceased trustees.

(d) A conveys certain property to three trustees in trust for B. All the trustees disclaim. B may institute a suit to have three trustees appointed in place of the trustees so disclaiming.

(e) A, a trustee for B, refuses to act, or goes to reside permanently out of British India, or is declared an insolvent, or compounds with his creditors, or suffers a co-trustee to commit a breach of trust. B may institute a suit to have A removed and a new trustee appointed in his room.

61. The beneficiary has a right that his trustee Right to compel to shall be compelled to perform any act of duty. form any particular act of his duty as such, and restrained from committing any contemplated or probable breach of trust.

Illustrations.

(a) A contracts with B to pay him monthly Rs. 100 for the benefit of C. B writes and signs a letter declaring that he will hold in trust for C the money so to be paid. A fails to pay the money in accordance with his contract. C may compel B on a proper indemnity to allow C to sue on the contract in B's name.

(b) A is trustee of certain land, with a power to sell the same and pay the proceeds to B and C equally. A is about to make an improvident sale of the land. B may sue on behalf of himself and C for an injunction to restrain A from making the sale.

62. Where a trustee has wrongfully bought Wrongful purchase by trust-property, the beneficiary has a right to have the property declared subject to the trust or retransferred by the trustee, if it remains in his hands unsold, or, if it has been bought from him by any person with notice of the trust, by such person. But in such case the beneficiary must repay the purchase-money paid by the trustee, with interest, and such other expenses (if any) as he has properly incurred in the preservation of the property; and the trustee or purchaser must (a) account for the net profits of the property, (b) be charged with an occupation-rent, if he has been in actual possession of the property, and (c) allow the beneficiary to deduct a proportionate part of the purchase-money if the property has been deteriorated by the acts or omissions of the trustee or purchaser.

Nothing in this section—

(a) impairs the rights of lessees and others who, before the institution of a suit to have the property declared subject to the trust or retransferred, have contracted in good faith with the trustee or purchaser; or

(b) entitles the beneficiary to have the property declared subject to the trust or retransferred where he, being competent to contract, has himself, without coercion or undue influence having been brought to bear on him, ratified the sale to the trustee with full knowledge of the facts of the case and of his rights as against the trustee.

63. Where trust-property comes into the hands of a third person inconsistently with the trust, the beneficiary may require him to admit formally, or may institute a suit for a declaration, that the property is comprised in the trust.

Where the trustee has disposed of trust-property and the money or other property which he has received therefor can be traced in his hands, or the hands of his legal representative or legatee, the beneficiary has, in respect thereof, rights as nearly as may be the same as his rights in respect of the original trust-property.

Illustrations.

(a) A, a trustee for B of Rs. 10,000, wrongfully invests the Rs. 10,000 in the purchase of certain land. B is entitled to the land.

(b) A, a trustee, wrongfully purchases land in his own name, partly with his own money, partly with money subject to a trust for B. B is entitled to a charge on the land for the amount of the trust-money so misemployed.

64. Nothing in section sixty-three entitles the beneficiary to any right in respect of property in the hands of—

(a) a transferee in good faith for consideration without having notice of the trust, either when the purchase-money was paid, or when the conveyance was executed, or—

(b) a transferee for consideration from such a transferee.

A judgment-creditor of the trustee attaching and purchasing trust-property is not a transferee for consideration within the meaning of this section.

Nothing in section sixty-three applies to money, currency notes and negotiable instruments in the hands of a *bona fide* holder to whom they have passed in circulation, or shall be deemed to affect the Indian Contract Act, 1872, section 108, or the liability of a person to whom a debt or charge is transferred.

65. Where a trustee wrongfully sells or otherwise transfers trust-property and afterwards himself becomes the owner of the property, the property again becomes subject to the trust, notwithstanding any want of notice on the part of intervening transferees in good faith for consideration.

66. Where the trustee wrongfully mingles the trust-property with his own, the beneficiary is entitled to a charge on the whole fund for the amount due to him.

67. If a partner, being a trustee, wrongfully employs trust-property in the business or on the account of the partnership, no other partner is liable therefor in his personal capacity to the beneficiaries, unless he had notice of the breach of trust.

The partners having such notice are jointly and severally liable for the breach of trust.

Illustrations.

(a) A and B are partners. A dies, having bequeathed all his property to B in trust for Z, and appointed B his sole executor. B, instead of winding-up the affairs of the partnership, retains all the assets in the business. Z may compel him, as partner, to account for so much of the profits as are derived from A's share of the capital. B is also answerable to Z for the improper employment of A's assets.

(b) A, a trader, bequeaths his property to B in trust for C, appoints B his sole executor, and dies. B enters into partnership with X and Y in the same trade, and employs A's assets in the partnership-business. B gives an indemnity to X and Y against the claims of C. Here X and Y are jointly liable with B to C as having knowingly become parties to the breach of trust committed by B.

68. Where one of several beneficiaries—

(a) joins in committing a breach of trust, or

(b) knowingly obtains any advantage therefrom, without the consent of the other beneficiaries, or

(c) becomes aware of a breach of trust committed or intended to be committed, and either actually conceals it, or does not within a reasonable time take proper steps to protect the interests of the other beneficiaries, or

(d) has deceived the trustee and thereby induced him to commit a breach of trust,

the other beneficiaries are entitled to have all his beneficial interest impounded as against him and all who claim under him (otherwise than as transferees for consideration without notice of the breach) until the loss caused by the breach has been compensated.

When property has been transferred or bequeathed for the benefit of a married woman, so that she shall not have power to deprive herself of her beneficial interest, nothing in this section applies to such property during her marriage.

69. Every person to whom a beneficiary transfers his interest has the rights, and is subject to the liabilities, of the beneficiary in respect of such interest at the date of the transfer.

CHAPTER VII.

OF VACATING THE OFFICE OF TRUSTEE.

70. The office of a trustee is vacated by his death or by his discharge from his office.

71. A trustee may be discharged from his office only as follows:—

- (a) by the extinction of the trust;
- (b) by the completion of his duties under the trust;
- (c) by such means as may be prescribed by the instrument of trust;
- (d) by appointment under this Act of a new trustee in his place;
- (e) by consent of himself and the beneficiary, or, where there are more beneficiaries than one, all the beneficiaries being competent to contract, or
- (f) by the Court to which a petition for his discharge is presented under this Act.

72. Notwithstanding the provisions of section eleven, every trustee may apply by petition to a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction to be discharged from his office; and if the Court finds that there is sufficient reason for such discharge, it may discharge him accordingly, and direct his costs to be paid out of the trust-property. But where there is no such reason, the Court shall not discharge him, unless a proper person can be found to take his place.

73. Whenever any person appointed a trustee disclaims, or any trustee, either original or substituted, dies, or is for a continuous period of six months absent from British India, or leaves British India for the purpose of residing abroad, or is declared an insolvent, or desires to be discharged from the trust, or refuses or becomes, in the opinion of a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction, unfit or personally incapable to act in the trust, or accepts an inconsistent trust, a new trustee may be appointed in his place by—

- (a) the person nominated for that purpose by the instrument of trust (if any), or
- (b) if there be no such person, or no such person able and willing to act, the author of the trust if he be alive and competent to contract, or the surviving or continuing trustees or trustee for the

time being, or legal representative of the last surviving and continuing trustee, or (with the consent of the Court) the retiring trustees, if they all retire simultaneously, or (with the like consent) the last retiring trustee.

Every such appointment shall be by writing under the hand of the person making it.

On an appointment of a new trustee the number of trustees may be increased.

The Official Trustee may, with his consent and by the order of the Court, be appointed under this section, in any case in which only one trustee is to be appointed and such trustee is to be the sole trustee.

The provisions of this section relative to a trustee who is dead include the case of a person nominated trustee in a will but dying before the testator, and those relative to a continuing trustee include a refusing or retiring trustee if willing to act in the execution of the power.

74. Whenever any such vacancy or disqualification occurs and it is found impracticable to appoint a new trustee under section seventy-three, the beneficiary may, without instituting a suit, apply by petition to a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction for the appointment of a trustee or a new trustee, and the Court may appoint a trustee or a new trustee accordingly.

In appointing new trustees, the Court shall have regard (a) to the wishes of the author of the trust as expressed in or to be inferred from the instrument of trust; (b) to the wishes of the person, if any, empowered to appoint new trustees; (c) to the question whether the appointment will promote or impede the execution of the trust, and (d) where there are more beneficiaries than one, to the interests of all such beneficiaries.

75. Whenever any new trustee is appointed under section seventy-three or section seventy-four, all the trust-property for the time being vested in the surviving or continuing trustees or trustee, or in the legal representative of any trustee, shall become vested in such new trustee, either solely or jointly with the surviving or continuing trustees or trustee as the case may require.

Every new trustee so appointed, and every trustee appointed by a Court either before or after the passing of this Act, shall have the same powers, authorities and discretions, and shall in all respects act, as if he had been originally nominated a trustee by the author of the trust.

76. On the death or discharge of one of several co-trustees, the trust survives and the trust-property passes to the others, unless the instrument of trust expressly declares otherwise.

CHAPTER VIII.

OF THE EXTINCTION OF TRUSTS.

77. A trust is extinguished—

- (a) when its purpose is completely fulfilled; or
- (b) when its purpose becomes unlawful; or

(c) when the fulfilment of its purpose becomes impossible by destruction of the trust-property or otherwise; or

(d) when the trust, being revocable, is expressly revoked.

78. A trust created by will may be revoked at the pleasure of the testator.

A trust otherwise created can be revoked only—

(a) where all the beneficiaries are competent to contract—by their consent;

(b) where the trust has been declared by a non-testamentary instrument or by word of mouth—in exercise of a power of revocation expressly reserved to the author of the trust; or

(c) where the trust is for the payment of the debts of the author of the trust, and has not been communicated to the creditors—at the pleasure of the author of the trust.

Illustration.

A conveys property to B in trust to sell the same and pay out of the proceeds the claims of A's creditors. A reserves no power of revocation. If no communication has been made to the creditors, A may revoke the trust. But if the creditors are parties to the arrangement, the trust cannot be revoked without their consent.

79. No trust can be revoked by the author of the trust so as to defeat or prejudice what the trustees may have duly done in execution of the trust.

CHAPTER IX.

OF CERTAIN OBLIGATIONS IN THE NATURE OF TRUSTS.

80. An obligation in the nature of a trust is created in the following cases.

81. Where the owner of property transfers or bequeaths it and it cannot be inferred consistently with the attendant circumstances that he intended to dispose of the beneficial interest therein, the transferee or legatee must hold such property for the benefit of the owner or his legal representative.

Illustrations.

(a) A conveys land to B without consideration and declares no trust of any part. It cannot, consistently with the circumstances under which the transfer is made, be inferred that A intended to transfer the beneficial interest in the land. B holds the land for the benefit of A.

(b) A conveys to B two fields, Y and Z, and declares a trust of Y, but says nothing about Z. It cannot, consistently with the circumstances under which the transfer is made, be inferred that A intended to transfer the beneficial interest in Z. B holds Z for the benefit of A.

(c) A transfers certain stock belonging to him into the joint names of himself and B. It cannot, consistently with the circumstances under which the transfer is made, be inferred that A intended to transfer the beneficial interest in the stock during his life. A and B hold the stock for the benefit of A during his life.

(d) A makes a gift of certain land to his wife B. She takes the beneficial interest in the land free from any trust in favour of A, for it may be inferred from the circumstances that the gift was for B's benefit.

82. Where property is transferred to one person for a consideration paid or provided by another person, and it appears that such other person did not intend to pay or provide such

consideration for the benefit of the transferee, the transferee must hold the property for the benefit of the person paying or providing the consideration.

Nothing in this section shall be deemed to affect the Code of Civil Procedure, section 317, or Act No. XI of 1859 (to improve the law relating to sales of land for arrears of revenue in the Lower Provinces under the Bengal Presidency), section 36.

83. Where a trust is incapable of being executed, or where the trust is completely executed without exhausting the trust-property, the trustee, in the absence of a direction to the contrary, must hold the trust-property, or so much thereof as is unexhausted, for the benefit of the author of the trust or his legal representative.

Illustrations.

(a) A conveys certain land to B—
“upon trust,” and no trust is declared; or
“upon trust to be thereafter declared,” and no such declaration is ever made; or
upon trusts that are too vague to be executed; or
upon trusts that become incapable of taking effect; or
“in trust for C,” and C renounces his interest under the trust.

In each of these cases B holds the land for the benefit of A.

(b) A transfers Rs. 10,000 in the four per cents. to B, in trust to pay the interest annually accruing due to C for her life. A dies. Then C dies. B holds the fund for the benefit of A's legal representative.

(c) A conveys land to B upon trust to sell it and apply one moiety of the proceeds for certain charitable purposes, and the other for the maintenance of the worship of an idol. B sells the land, but the charitable purposes wholly fail, and the maintenance of the worship does not exhaust the second moiety of the proceeds. B holds the first moiety and the part unapplied of the second moiety for the benefit of A or his legal representative.

(d) A bequeaths Rs. 10,000 to B, to be laid out in buying land to be conveyed for purposes which either wholly or partially fail to take effect. B holds for the benefit of A's legal representative the undisposed of interest in the money or land if purchased.

84. Where the owner of property transfers it for an illegal purpose and such purpose is not carried into execution, or the transferor is not as guilty as the transferee, or the effect of permitting the transferee to retain the property might be to defeat the provisions of any law, the transferee must hold the property for the benefit of the transferor.

85. Where a testator bequeaths certain property upon trust and the purpose of the trust appears on the face of the will to be unlawful, or during the testator's lifetime the legatee agrees with him to apply the property for an unlawful purpose, the legatee must hold the property for the benefit of the testator's legal representative.

Where property is bequeathed and the revocation of the bequest is prevented by coercion, the legatee must hold the property for the benefit of the testator's legal representative.

86. Where property is transferred in pursuance of a contract which is liable to rescission or induced by fraud or mistake, the transferee must, on receiving

notice to that effect, hold the property for the benefit of the transferor, subject to repayment by the latter of the consideration actually paid.

87. Where a debtor becomes the executor or Debtor becoming executor's representative. other legal representative of his creditor, he must hold the debt for the benefit of the persons interested therein.

88. Where a trustee, executor, partner, agent, Advantago gained by director of a company, legal fiduciary, adviser, or other person bound in a fiduciary character to protect the interests of another person, by availing himself of his character, gains for himself any pecuniary advantage, or where any person so bound enters into any dealings under circumstances in which his own interests are, or may be, adverse to those of such other person and thereby gains for himself a pecuniary advantage, he must hold for the benefit of such other person the advantage so gained.

Illustrations.

(a) A, an executor, buys at an undervalue from B, a legatee, his claim under the will. B is ignorant of the value of the bequest. A must hold for the benefit of B the difference between the price and value.

(b) A, a trustee, uses the trust property for the purpose of his own business. A holds for the benefit of his beneficiary the profits arising from such user.

(c) A, a trustee, retires from his trust in consideration of his successor paying him a sum of money. A holds such money for the benefit of his beneficiary.

(d) A, a partner, buys land in his own name with funds belonging to the partnership. A holds such land for the benefit of the partnership.

(e) A, a partner, employed on behalf of himself and his co-partners in negotiating the terms of a lease, clandestinely stipulates with the lessor for payment to himself of a lakh of rupees. A holds the lakh for the benefit of the partnership.

(f) A and B are partners. A dies. B, instead of winding up the affairs of the partnership, retains all the assets in the business. B must account to A's legal representative for the profits arising from A's share of the capital.

(g) A, an agent employed to obtain a lease for B, obtains the lease for himself. A holds the lease for the benefit of B.

(h) A, a guardian, buys up for himself incumbrances on his ward B's estate at an undervalue. A holds for the benefit of B the incumbrances so bought, and can only charge him with what he has actually paid.

89. Where, by the exercise of undue influence, Advantage gained by exercise of undue influence. any advantage is gained in derogation of the interests of another, the person gaining such advantage without consideration, or with notice that such influence has been exercised, must hold the advantage for the benefit of the person whose interests have been so prejudiced.

90. Where a tenant for life, co-owner, mort- Advantage gained by gagee or other qualified qualified owner. owner of any property, by availing himself of his position as such, gains an advantage in derogation of the rights of the other persons interested in the property, or where any such owner, as representing all persons interested in such property, gains any advantage, he must hold, for the benefit of all persons so interested, the advantage so gained, but subject to repayment by such persons of their due share of the expenses properly incurred, and to an indemnity by the same persons against liabilities properly contracted, in gaining such advantage.

Illustrations.

(a) A, the tenant for life of leasehold property, renews the lease in his own name and for his own benefit. A holds the renewed lease for the benefit of all those interested in the old lease.

(b) A village belongs to a Hindu family. A, one of its members, pays a mortgage to a Government and thereby procures

his name to be entered as the inamdar of the village. A holds the village for the benefit of himself and the other members.

(c) A mortgages land to B, who enters into possession. B allows the Government revenue to fall into arrear with a view to the land being put up for sale and B becoming himself the purchaser of it. The land is accordingly sold to B. Subject to the repayment of the amount due on the mortgage and of his expenses properly incurred as mortgagee, B holds the land for the benefit of A.

91. Where a person acquires property with Property acquired with notice that another person notice of existing con- has entered into an existing tract. contract affecting that property, of which specific performance could be enforced, the former must hold the property for the benefit of the latter to the extent necessary to give effect to the contract.

92. Where a person contracts to buy property Purchase by person to be held on trust for cer- contracting to buy pro- tain beneficiaries and buys tain beneficiaries and buys the property accordingly, he must hold the property for their benefit to the extent necessary to give effect to the contract.

93. Where creditors compound the debts due to Advantage secretly them, and one of such credi- gained by one of several tors, by a secret arrangement compounding creditors. with the debtor, gains an undue advantage over his co-creditors, he must hold for the benefit of such creditors the advantage so gained.

94. In any case not coming within the scope Constructive trusts in of any of the preceding cases not expressly pro- sections, where there is no vided for. trust, but the person having possession of property has not the whole beneficial interest therein, he must hold the property for the benefit of the persons having such interest, or the residue thereof (as the case may be), to the extent necessary to satisfy their just demands.

Illustrations.

(a) A, an executor, distributes the assets of his testator B to the legatees without having paid the whole of B's debts. The legatees hold for the benefit of B's creditors, to the extent necessary to satisfy their just demands, the assets so distributed.

(b) A by mistake assumes the character of a trustee for B, and under colour of the trust receives certain moneys. B may compel him to account for such moneys.

(c) A makes a gift of a lakh of rupees to B, reserving to himself, with B's assent, power to revoke at pleasure the gift as to Rs. 10,000. The gift is void as to Rs. 10,000, and B holds that sum for the benefit of A.

95. The person holding property in accordance Obligor's duties, li- with any of the preceding abilities and disabilities. sections of this chapter must, so far as may be, perform the same duties, and is subject, so far as may be, to the same liabilities and disabilities, as if he were a trustee of the property for the person for whose benefit he holds it:

Provided that (a) where he rightfully cultivates the property or employs it in trade or business, he is entitled to reasonable remuneration for his trouble, skill and loss of time in such cultivation or employment; and (b) where he holds the property by virtue of a contract with the person for whose benefit he holds it, or with any one through whom such person claims, he may, without the permission of the Court, buy or become lessor or mortgagee of the property or any part thereof.

96. Nothing contained in this chapter shall
 Saving of rights of impair the rights of trans-
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STATUTE.

| Year and chapter. | Short title. | Extent of repeal. |
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|------------------|--|---|
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| I of 1877 | The Specific Re- lief Act, 1877. | In section 12 the first illustration. |

R. J. CROSTHWAITE,
Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

[First Publication.]

The following Act of the Governor General of India in Council received the assent of His Excellency the Governor General on the 19th January, 1882, and is hereby promulgated for general information:—

ACT No. III OF 1882.

An Act to amend the law relating to Seditious Publications.

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the law relating to Seditious Publications; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

Preamble.

Short title.

Local extent.
Commencement.

1. This Act may be called "The Seditious Publications Act, 1882."

It extends to the whole of British India; and shall come into force at once.

2. Act No. IX of 1878 (*An Act for the better control of Publications in Oriental languages*) and Act

Repeal of Acts.

No. XVI of 1878 (*An Act to amend Act No. IX of 1878*) are repealed.

3. After section 60 of Act No. XIV of 1866

Section inserted after (*The Indian Post Office Act, 1866*) the following section of 1866.

shall be inserted, namely:—

"60A. Whenever any notification has been published under section nineteen of the Sea Customs Act, 1878, in respect of any newspaper, book, pamphlet, placard, broadsheet or other document, any officer of the Postal Department empowered in this behalf by the Governor General in Council, by name or in virtue of his office, may search or cause search to be made for any copies of the same in the custody of that Department, and shall deliver all such copies found to such officer as the Governor General in Council may appoint in this behalf by name or in virtue of his office, and such copies may be disposed of in such manner as the Governor General in Council may from time to time direct."

R. J. CROSTHWAITE,

Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India.



The Gazette of India.

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 1882.

Separate paging is given to this Part in order that it may be filed as a separate compilation.

PART IV.

Acts of the Governor General's Council assented to by the Governor General.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

[Third Publication.]

The following Act of the Governor General of India in Council received the assent of His Excellency the Governor General on the 13th January, 1882, and is hereby promulgated for general information :—

ACT NO. II OF 1882.

THE INDIAN TRUSTS ACT, 1882.

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THE SCHEDULE.

An Act to define and amend the law relating to Private Trusts and Trustees.

WHEREAS it is expedient to define and amend the law relating to private trusts and trustees; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

CHAPTER I.

PRELIMINARY.

1. This Act may be called "The Indian Trusts Act, 1882"; and it shall come into force on the first day of March, 1882.

It extends in the first instance to the territories respectively administered by the Governor of Madras in Council, the Lieutenant-Governors of the North-West Provinces and the Panjab, the Chief Commissioners of Oudh, the Central Provinces, Coorg and Assam; and the Local Government may from time to time, by notification in the official Gazette, extend it to any other part of British India. But nothing herein contained affects the rules of Muhammadan law as to *waqf*, or the mutual relations of the members of an undivided family as determined by any customary or personal law, or applies to public or private religious or charitable endowments, or to trusts to distribute prizes taken in war among the captors; and nothing in the second chapter of this Act applies to trusts created before the said day.

2. The Statute and Acts mentioned in the Schedule hereto annexed shall, to the extent mentioned in the said schedule, be repealed in the territories to which this Act for the time being extends.

3. A "trust" is an obligation annexed to the ownership of property, and arising out of a confidence reposed in and accepted by the owner, or declared and accepted by him, for the benefit of another, or of another and the owner:

"trust": the person who reposes or declares the confidence

"author of the trust": is called the "author of the trust": the person who accepts the confidence is called the "trustee": the person for whose benefit the confidence is accepted is called the "beneficiary": the subject-matter of the trust is called "trust-property" or "trust-money": the "beneficial interest" or "interest" of the beneficiary is his right against the trustee as owner of the "instrument of trust": trust-property; and the instrument, if any, by which the trust is declared is called the "instrument of trust":

a breach of any duty imposed on a trustee, as such, by any law for the time being in force, is called a "breach of trust":

and in this Act, unless there be something repugnant in the subject or context, "registered" means registered under the law for the registration of documents for the time being in force: a person is said to have "notice" of a fact either when he actually knows that fact or when, but for wilful abstention from inquiry or gross negligence, he would have known it, or when information of the fact is given to or obtained by his agent, under the circumstances mentioned in the Indian Contract Act, 1872, section 229; and all expressions used herein and defined in the Indian Contract Act, 1872, shall be deemed to have the meanings respectively attributed to them by that Act.

CHAPTER II.

OF THE CREATION OF TRUSTS.

4. A trust may be created for any lawful purpose. The purpose of a trust is lawful unless it is (a) forbidden by law, or (b) is of such a nature that, if permitted, it would defeat the provisions of any law, or (c) is fraudulent, or (d) involves or implies injury to the person or property of another, or (e) the Court regards it as immoral or opposed to public policy.

Every trust of which the purpose is unlawful is void. And where a trust is created for two purposes, of which one is lawful and the other unlawful, and the two purposes cannot be separated, the whole trust is void.

Explanation.—In this section, the expression "law" includes, where the trust-property is immovable and situate in a foreign country, the law of such country.

Illustrations.

(a) A conveys property to B in trust to apply the profits to the nurture of female foundlings to be trained up as prostitutes. The trust is void.

(b) A bequeaths property to B in trust to employ it in carrying on a smuggling business, and out of the profits thereof to support A's children. The trust is void.

(c) A, while in insolvent circumstances, transfers property to B in trust for A during his life, and after his death for B. A is declared an insolvent. The trust for A is invalid as against his creditors.

5. No trust in relation to immovable property is valid unless declared by a non-testamentary instrument in writing signed by the author of the trust or the trustee and registered, or by the will of the author of the trust or of the trustee.

No trust in relation to moveable property is valid unless declared as aforesaid, or unless the ownership of the property is transferred to the trustee. These rules do not apply where they would operate so as to effectuate a fraud.

6. Subject to the provisions of section five, a trust is created when the author of the trust indicates with reasonable certainty by any words or acts (a) an intention on his part to create thereby a trust, (b) the purpose of the trust, (c) the beneficiary, and (d) the trust-property, and (unless the trust is declared by will or the author of the trust is himself to be the trustee) transfers the trust-property to the trustee.

Illustrations.

(a) A bequeaths certain property to B, "having the fullest confidence that he will dispose of it for the benefit of" C. This creates a trust so far as regards A and C.

(b) A bequeaths certain property to B, "hoping he will continue it in the family." This does not create a trust, as the beneficiary is not indicated with reasonable certainty.

(c) A bequeaths certain property to B, requesting him to distribute it amongst such members of C's family as B should think most deserving. This does not create a trust, for the beneficiaries are not indicated with reasonable certainty.

(d) A bequeaths certain property to B, desiring him to divide the bulk of it among C's children. This does not create a trust, for the trust-property is not indicated with sufficient certainty.

(e) A bequeaths a shop and stock-in-trade to B, on condition that he pays A's debts and a legacy to C. This is a condition, not a trust for A's creditors and C.

Who may create trusts. 7. A trust may be created—

(a) by every person competent to contract, and, (b) with the permission of a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction, by or on behalf of a minor;

but subject in each case to the law for the time being in force as to the circumstances and extent in and to which the author of the trust may dispose of the trust-property.

8. The subject-matter of a trust must be property transferable to the beneficiary.

It must not be a merely beneficial interest under a subsisting trust.

9. Every person capable of holding property may be a beneficiary.

A proposed beneficiary may renounce his interest under the trust by disclaimer addressed to the trustee, or by setting up, with notice of the trust, a claim inconsistent therewith.

10. Every person capable of holding property may be a trustee; but where the trust involves the exercise of discretion, he cannot execute it unless he is competent to contract.

No one bound to accept trust. No one is bound to accept a trust.
A trust is accepted by any words or acts of the trustee indicating with reasonable certainty such acceptance.

Instead of accepting a trust, the intended trustee may, within a reasonable period, disclaim it, and such disclaimer shall prevent the trust-property from vesting in him.

A disclaimer by one of two or more co-trustees vests the trust-property in the other or others, and makes him or them sole trustee or trustees from the date of the creation of the trust.

Illustrations.

(a) A bequeaths certain property to B and C, his executors, as trustees for D. B and C prove A's will. This is in itself an acceptance of the trust, and B and C hold the property in trust for D.

(b) A transfers certain property to B in trust to sell it and to pay out of the proceeds A's debts. B accepts the trust and sells the property. So far as regards B, a trust of the proceeds is created for A's creditors.

(c) A bequeaths a lakh of rupees to B upon certain trusts and appoints him his executor. B severs the lakh from the general assets and appropriates it to the specific purpose. This is an acceptance of the trust.

CHAPTER III.

OF THE DUTIES AND LIABILITIES OF TRUSTEES.

11. The trustee is bound to fulfil the purpose of the trust, and to obey the directions of the author of the trust given at the time of its creation, except as modified by the consent of all the beneficiaries being competent to contract.

Where the beneficiary is incompetent to contract, his consent may, for the purposes of this section, be given by a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction.

Nothing in this section shall be deemed to require a trustee to obey any direction when to do so would be impracticable, illegal or manifestly injurious to the beneficiaries.

Explanation.—Unless a contrary intention be expressed, the purpose of a trust for the payment of debts shall be deemed to be (a) to pay only the debts of the author of the trust existing and recoverable at the date of the instrument of trust, or, when such instrument is a will, at the date of his death, and (b) in the case of debts not bearing interest, to make such payment without interest.

Illustrations.

(a) A, a trustee, is simply authorized to sell certain land by public auction. He cannot sell the land by private contract.

(b) A, a trustee of certain land for X, Y and Z, is authorized to sell the land to B for a specified sum. X, Y and Z, being competent to contract, consent that A may sell the land to C for a less sum. A may sell the land accordingly.

(c) A, a trustee for B and her children, is directed by the author of the trust to lend, on B's request, trust-property to B's husband, C, on the security of his bond. C becomes insolvent, and B requests A to make the loan. A may refuse to make it.

12. A trustee is bound to acquaint himself, as soon as possible, with the nature and circumstances of the trust-property; to obtain where necessary, a transfer of the trust-property to himself; and (subject to the provisions of the instrument of trust) to get in trust-moneys invested on insufficient or hazardous security.

Trustee to inform himself of state of trust-property.

Trustee to inform himself of state of trust-property. Trustee to obtain where necessary, a transfer of the trust-property to himself; and (subject to the provisions of the instrument of trust) to get in trust-moneys invested on insufficient or hazardous security.

Illustrations.

(a) The trust-property is a debt outstanding on personal security. The instrument of trust gives the trustee no discretionary power to leave the debt so outstanding. The trustee's duty is to recover the debt without unnecessary delay.

(b) The trust-property is money in the hands of one of two co-trustees. No discretionary power is given by the instrument of trust. The other co-trustee must not allow the former to retain the money for a longer period than the circumstances of the case required.

13. A trustee is bound to maintain and defend all such suits, and (subject to the provisions of the instrument of trust) to take such other steps as, regard being had to the nature and amount or value of the trust-property, may be reasonably requisite for the preservation of the trust-property and the assertion or protection of the title thereto.

Trustee to protect title to trust-property.

Trustee to protect title to trust-property. Trustee to protect title to trust-property. Trustee to protect title to trust-property.

Illustration.

The trust-property is immoveable property which has been given to the author of the trust by an unregistered instrument. Subject to the provisions of the Indian Registration Act, 1877, the trustee's duty is to cause the instrument to be registered.

14. The trustee must not for himself or another set-up or aid any title to the trust-property adverse to the interest of the beneficiary.

Trustee not to set up title adverse to beneficiary.

15. A trustee is bound to deal with the trust-property as carefully as a man of ordinary prudence would deal with such property if it were his own; and, in the absence of a contract to the contrary, a trustee so dealing is not responsible for the loss, destruction or deterioration of the trust-property.

Illustrations.

(a) A, living in Calcutta, is a trustee for B, living in Bombay. A remits trust-funds to B by bills drawn by a person of undoubted credit in favour of the trustee as such, and payable at Bombay. The bills are dishonoured. A is not bound to make good the loss.

(b) A, a trustee of leasehold property, directs the tenant to pay the rents on account of the trust to a banker, B, then in credit. The rents are accordingly paid to B, and A leaves the money with B only till wanted. Before the money is drawn out, B becomes insolvent. A, having had no reason to believe that B was in insolvent circumstances, is not bound to make good the loss.

(c) A, a trustee of two debts for B, releases one and compounds the other, in good faith, and reasonably believing that it is for B's interest to do so. A is not bound to make good any loss caused thereby to B.

(d) A, a trustee directed to sell the trust-property by auction, sells the same, but does not advertise the sale and otherwise fails in reasonable diligence in inviting competition. A is bound to make good the loss caused thereby to the beneficiary.

(e) A, a trustee for B, in execution of his trust, sells the trust-property, but from want of due diligence on his part fails to receive part of the purchase-money. A is bound to make good the loss thereby caused to B.

(f) A, a trustee for B of a policy of insurance, has funds in hand for payment of the premiums. A neglects to pay the premiums, and the policy is consequently forfeited. A is bound to make good the loss to B.

(g) A bequeaths certain monies to B and C as trustees and authorizes them to continue trust-moneys upon the personal security of a certain firm in which A had himself invested them. A dies, and a change takes place in the firm. B and C must not permit the monies to remain upon the personal security of the new firm.

(h) A, a trustee for B, allows the trust to be executed solely by his co-trustee, C. C misapplies the trust-property. A is personally answerable for the loss resulting to B.

16. Where the trust is created for the benefit of several persons in succession, and the trust-property is of a wasting nature or a future or reversionary

interest, the trustee is bound, unless an intention to the contrary may be inferred from the instrument of trust, to convert the property into property of a permanent and immediately profitable character.

Illustrations.

(a) A bequeaths to B all his property in trust for C during his life, and on his death for D, and on D's death for E. A's property consists of three leasehold houses, and there is nothing in A's will to show that he intended the houses to be enjoyed in specie. B should sell the houses, and invest the proceeds in accordance with section twenty.

(b) A bequeaths to B his three leasehold houses in Calcutta and all the furniture therein in trust for C during his life, and on his death for D, and on D's death for E. Here an intention that the houses and furniture should be enjoyed in specie appears clearly, and B should not sell them.

17. Where there are more beneficiaries than one the trustee is bound to be impartial, and must not execute the trust for the advantage of one at the expense of another.

Where the trustee has a discretionary power, nothing in this section shall be deemed to authorize the Court to control the exercise reasonably and in good faith of such discretion.

Illustration.

A, a trustee for B, C and D, is empowered to choose between several specified modes of investing the trust-property. A in good faith chooses one of these modes. The Court will not interfere, although the result of the choice may be to vary the relative rights of B, C and D.

18. Where the trust is created for the benefit of several persons in succession and one of them is in possession of the trust-property, if he commits, or threatens to commit, any act which is destructive or permanently injurious thereto, the trustee is bound to take measures to prevent such act.

19. A trustee is bound (a) to keep clear and accurate accounts of the trust-property, and (b), at all reasonable times, at the request of the beneficiary, to furnish him with full and accurate information as to the amount and state of the trust-property.

20. Where the trust-property consists of money and cannot be applied immediately or at an early date to the purposes of the trust, the trustee is bound (subject to any direction contained in the instrument of trust) to invest the money on the following securities, and on no others:—

(a) in promissory notes, debentures, stock or other securities of the Government of India, or of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland;

(b) in bonds, debentures and annuities charged by the Imperial Parliament on the revenues of India;

(c) in stock or debentures of, or shares in, Railway or other Companies the interest whereon shall have been guaranteed by the Secretary of State for India in Council;

(d) in debentures or other securities for money issued by, or on behalf of, any municipal body under the authority of any Act of a legislature established in British India;

(e) on a first mortgage of immoveable property situate in British India: Provided that the property is not a leasehold for a term of years and

that the value of the property exceeds by one-third, or, if consisting of buildings, exceeds by one-half, the mortgage-money; or

(f) on any other security expressly authorized by the instrument of trust, or by any rule which the High Court may from time to time prescribe in this behalf.

Provided that, where there is a person competent to contract and entitled in possession to receive the income of the trust-property for his life, or for any greater estate, no investment on any security mentioned or referred to in clauses (d), (e) and (f) shall be made without his consent in writing.

21. Nothing in section twenty shall apply to Mortgage of Land investments made before this Act comes into force, or shall under Act XXVI of 1871. be deemed to preclude an investment on a mortgage of immoveable property already pledged as security for an advance under the Land Improvement Act, 1871, or, in case the Deposit in Government trust-money does not exceed three thousand rupees, a deposit thereof in a Government Savings Bank.

22. Where a trustee directed to sell within a specified time extends such time, the burden of proving, as between himself and the beneficiary, that the latter is not prejudiced by the extension lies upon the trustee, unless the extension has been authorized by a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction.

Illustration.

A bequeaths property to B, directing him with all convenient speed and within five years to sell it, and apply the proceeds for the benefit of C. In the exercise of reasonable discretion, B postpones the sale for six years. The sale is not thereby rendered invalid, but C, alleging that he has been injured by the postponement, institutes a suit against B to obtain compensation. In such suit the burden of proving that C has not been injured lies on B.

23. Where the trustee commits a breach of trust, he is liable to make good the loss which the trust-property or the beneficiary has thereby sustained, unless the beneficiary has by fraud induced the trustee to commit the breach, or the beneficiary, being competent to contract, has himself, without coercion or undue influence having been brought to bear on him, concurred in the breach, or subsequently acquiesced therein, with full knowledge of the facts of the case and of his rights as against the trustee.

A trustee committing a breach of trust is not liable to pay interest except in the following cases:—

(a) where he has actually received interest:

(b) where the breach consists in unreasonable delay in paying trust-money to the beneficiary:

(c) where the trustee ought to have received interest, but has not done so:

(d) where he may be fairly presumed to have received interest.

He is liable, in case (a), to account for the interest actually received, and, in cases (b), (c) and (d), to account for simple interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum, unless the Court otherwise directs.

(e) where the breach consists in failure to invest trust-money and to accumulate the interest or dividends thereon, he is liable to account for compound interest (with half-yearly rests) at the same rate.

(f) Where the breach consists in the employment of trust-property or the proceeds thereof in trade or business, he is liable to account, at the option of the beneficiary, either for compound interest (with half-yearly rests) at the same rate, or for the net profits made by such employment.

Illustrations.

(a) A trustee improperly leaves trust-property outstanding, and it is consequently lost: he is liable to make good the property lost, but he is not liable to pay interest thereon.

(b) A bequeaths a house to B in trust to sell it and pay the proceeds to C. B neglects to sell the house for a great length of time, whereby the house is deteriorated and its market price falls. B is answerable to C for the loss.

(c) A trustee is guilty of unreasonable delay in investing trust-money in accordance with section twenty, or in paying it to the beneficiary. The trustee is liable to pay interest thereon for the period of the delay.

(d) The duty of the trustee is to invest trust-money in any of the securities mentioned in section twenty, clause (a), (b), (c) or (d). Instead of doing so, he retains the money in his hands. He is liable, at the option of the beneficiary, to be charged either with the amount of such principal money and interest, or with the amount of such securities as he might have purchased with the trust-money when the investment should have been made, and the intermediate dividends and interest thereon.

(e) The instrument of trust directs the trustee to invest trust-money either in any of such securities or on mortgage of immovable property. The trustee does neither. He is liable for the principal money and interest.

(f) The instrument of trust directs the trustee to invest trust-money in any of such securities and to accumulate the dividends thereon. The trustee disregards the direction. He is liable, at the option of the beneficiary, to be charged either with the amount of the principal money and compound interest, or with the amount of such securities as he might have purchased with the trust-money when the investment should have been made, together with the amount of the accumulation which would have arisen from a proper investment of the intermediate dividends.

(g) Trust-property is invested in one of the securities mentioned in section twenty, clause (a), (b), (c) or (d). The trustee sells such security for some purpose not authorized by the terms of the instrument of trust. He is liable, at the option of the beneficiary, either to replace the security with the intermediate dividends and interest thereon, or to account for the proceeds of the sale with interest thereon.

(h) The trust-property consists of land. The trustee sells the land to a purchaser for a consideration without notice of the trust. The trustee is liable, at the option of the beneficiary, to purchase other land of equal value to be settled upon the like trust, or to be charged with the proceeds of the sale with interest.

24. A trustee who is liable for a loss occasioned by a breach of trust in respect of one portion of the trust-property cannot set-off

No set-off allowed to trustee.

against his liability a gain which has accrued to another portion of the trust-property through another and distinct breach of trust.

25. Where a trustee succeeds another, he is not, as such, liable for the acts or defaults of his predecessor.

Non-liability for predecessor's default.

26 Subject to the provisions of sections thirteen and fifteen, one trustee is not, as such, liable for a breach of trust committed by his co-trustee:

Non-liability for co-trustee's default.

Provided that, in the absence of an express declaration to the contrary in the instrument of trust, a trustee is so liable—

(a) where he has delivered trust-property to his co-trustee without seeing to its proper application:

(b) where he allows his co-trustee to receive trust-property and fails to make due enquiry as to the co-trustee's dealings therewith, or allows him

to retain it longer than the circumstances of the case reasonably require:

(c) where he becomes aware of a breach of trust committed or intended by his co-trustee, and either actively conceals it or does not within a reasonable time take proper steps to protect the beneficiary's interest.

A co-trustee who joins in signing a receipt for trust-property and proves that he has not received the same is not answerable, by reason of such signature only, for loss or misapplication of the property by his co-trustee.

Illustration.

A bequeaths certain property to B and C, and directs them to sell it and invest the proceeds for the benefit of D. B and C accordingly sell the property, and the purchase-money is received by B and retained in his hands. C pays no attention to the matter for two years and then calls on B to make the investment. B is unable to do so, becomes insolvent, and the purchase-money is lost. C may be compelled to make good the amount.

27. Where co-trustees jointly commit a breach of trust, or where one of

Several liability of co-trustees. them by his neglect enables the other to commit a breach of trust, each is liable to the beneficiary for the whole of the loss occasioned by such breach.

But as between the trustees themselves, if one be less guilty than another and has had to refund the loss, the former may compel

Contribution as between co-trustees. the latter, or his legal representative to the extent of the assets he has received, to make good such loss; and if all be equally guilty, any one or more of the trustees who has had to refund the loss may compel the others to contribute.

Nothing in this section shall be deemed to authorize a trustee who has been guilty of fraud to institute a suit to compel contribution.

28. When any beneficiary's interest becomes

Non-liability of trustee paying without notice of transfer by beneficiary.

vested in another person, and the trustee, not having notice of the vesting, pays or delivers trust-property to the person who would have been entitled thereto in the absence of such vesting, the trustee is not liable for the property so paid or delivered.

29. When the beneficiary's interest is forfeited

Liability of trustee where beneficiary's interest is forfeited to Government.

or awarded by legal adjudication to Government, the trustee is bound to hold the trust-property to the extent of such interest for the benefit of such person in such manner as the Government may direct in this behalf.

30. Subject to the provisions of the instrument

Indemnity of trustees.

of trust and of sections twenty-three and twenty-six, trustees shall be respectively chargeable only for such moneys, stocks, funds and securities as they respectively actually receive, and shall not be answerable the one for the other of them, nor for any banker, broker or other person in whose hands any trust-property may be placed, nor for the insufficiency or deficiency of any stocks, funds or securities, nor otherwise for involuntary losses.

CHAPTER IV.

OF THE RIGHTS AND POWERS OF TRUSTEES.

31. A trustee is entitled to have in his possession the instrument of trust and all the documents of title (if any) relating solely to the trust-property.

Right to title deeds.

32. Every trustee may reimburse himself, or pay or discharge out of the trust-property, all expenses properly incurred in or about the execution of the trust, or the realization, preservation or benefit of the trust-property, or the protection or support of the beneficiary.

Right to reimbursement of expenses.

If he pays such expenses out of his own pocket he has a first charge upon the trust-property for such expenses and interest thereon; but such charge (unless the expenses have been incurred with the sanction of a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction) shall be enforced only by prohibiting any disposition of the trust-property without previous payment of such expenses and interest.

If the trust-property fail, the trustee is entitled to recover from the beneficiary personally on whose behalf he acted, and at whose request, expressed or implied, he made the payment, the amount of such expenses.

Where a trustee has by mistake made an over-payment to the beneficiary, he may reimburse the trust-property out of the beneficiary's interest. If such interest fail, the trustee is entitled to recover from the beneficiary personally the amount of such overpayment.

Right to be recouped for erroneous overpayment.

33. A person other than a trustee who has gained an advantage from a breach of trust must indemnify the trustee to the extent of the amount actually received by such person under the breach; and where he is a beneficiary the trustee has a charge on his interest for such amount.

Right to indemnity from gain by breach of trust.

Nothing in this section shall be deemed to entitle a trustee to be indemnified who has, in committing the breach of trust, been guilty of fraud.

34. Any trustee may, without instituting a suit apply by petition to a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction for its opinion, advice or direction on any present questions respecting the management or administration of the trust-property other than questions of detail, difficulty or importance, not proper in the opinion of the Court for summary disposal.

Right to apply to Court for opinion in management of trust-property.

A copy of such petition shall be served upon, and the hearing thereof may be attended by, such of the persons interested in the application as the Court thinks fit.

The trustee stating in good faith the facts in such petition and acting upon the opinion, advice or direction given by the Court shall be deemed, so far as regards his own responsibility, to have discharged his duty as such trustee in the subject-matter of the application.

The costs of every application under this section shall be in the discretion of the Court to which it is made.

35. When the duties of a trustee, as such, are completed, he is entitled to have the accounts of his administration of the trust-property examined and settled; and, where nothing is due to the beneficiary under the trust, to an acknowledgment in writing to that effect.

Right to settlement of accounts.

36. In addition to the powers expressly conferred by this Act and by the instrument of trust, and subject to the restrictions, if any, contained in such instrument, and to the provisions of section seventeen, a trustee may, do all acts which are reasonable and proper for the realization, protection or benefit of the trust-property, and for the protection or support of a beneficiary who is not competent to contract.

General authority of trustee.

Every trustee in the actual possession or receipt of the rents and profits of land as defined in the Land Improvement Act, 1871, shall, for the purposes of that Act, be deemed to be a landlord in possession.

Except with the permission of a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction, no trustee shall lease trust-property for a term exceeding twenty-one years from the date of executing the lease, nor without reserving the best yearly rent that can be reasonably obtained.

37. Where the trustee is empowered to sell any trust-property, he may sell the same subject to prior charges or not, and either together or in lots, by public auction or private contract, and either at one time or at several times, unless the instrument of trust otherwise directs.

Power to sell in lots, and either by public auction or private contract.

38. The trustee making any such sale may insert such reasonable stipulations either as to title or evidence of title, or otherwise, in any conditions of sale or contract for sale, as he thinks fit; and may also buy-in the property or any part thereof at any sale by auction, and rescind or vary any contract for sale, and re-sell the property so bought in, or as to which the contract is so rescinded, without being responsible to the beneficiary for any loss occasioned thereby.

Power to sell under special conditions.

Power to buy-in and re-sell.

Where a trustee is directed to sell trust-property or to invest trust-money in the purchase of property, he may exercise a reasonable discretion as to the time of effecting the sale or purchase.

Time allowed for selling trust-property.

Illustrations.

(a) A bequeaths property to B, directing him to sell it with all convenient speed and pay the proceeds to C. This does not render an immediate sale imperative.

(b) A bequeaths property to B, directing him to sell it at such time and in such manner as he shall think fit and invest the proceeds for the benefit of C. This does not authorize B, as between him and C, to postpone the sale to an indefinite period.

39. For the purpose of completing any such sale, the trustee shall have power to convey or otherwise dispose of the property sold in such manner as may be necessary.

Power to convey.

40. A trustee may, at his discretion, call in any trust-property invested in any security and invest the same on any of the securities mentioned or referred to in section twenty. and from time to time vary any such investments for others of the same nature.

Provided that, where there is a person competent to contract and entitled at the time to receive the income of the trust-property for his life, or for any greater estate, no such change of investment shall be made without his consent in writing.

41. Where any property is held by a trustee in trust for a minor, such trustee may, at his discretion, pay to the guardians (if any) of such minor, or otherwise apply for or towards his maintenance or education or advancement in life, or the reasonable expenses of his religious worship, marriage or funeral, the whole or any part of the income to which he may be entitled in respect of such property; and such trustee shall accumulate all the residue of such income by way of compound interest, by investing the same and the resulting income thereof from time to time in any of the securities mentioned or referred to in section twenty, for the benefit of the person who shall ultimately become entitled to the property from which such accumulations have arisen: Provided that such trustee may, at any time, if he thinks fit, apply the whole or any part of such accumulations as if the same were part of the income arising in the then current year.

Where the income of the trust-property is insufficient for the minor's maintenance or education or advancement in life, or the reasonable expenses of his religious worship, marriage or funeral, the trustee may, with the permission of a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction, but not otherwise, apply the whole or any part of such property for or towards such maintenance, education, advancement or expenses.

Nothing in this section shall be deemed to affect the provisions of any local law for the time being in force relating to the persons and property of minors.

42. Any trustees or trustee may give a receipt in writing for any money, securities or other moveable property payable, transferable or deliverable to them or him by reason, or in the exercise, of any trust or power; and, in the absence of fraud, such receipt shall discharge the person paying, transferring or delivering the same therefrom, and from seeing to the application thereof, or being accountable for any loss or misapplication thereof.

43. Two or more trustees acting together may, if and as they think fit—

- (a) accept any composition or any security for any debt or for any property claimed;
- (b) allow any time for payment of any debt;
- (c) compromise, compound, abandon, submit to arbitration or otherwise settle any debt, account, claim or thing whatever relating to the trust; and,
- (d) for any of those purposes, enter into, give, execute and do such agreements, instruments of composition or arrangement, releases and other things as to them seem expedient, without being responsible for any loss occasioned by any act or thing so done by them in good faith.

The powers conferred by this section on two or more trustees acting together may be exercised by a sole acting trustee when by the instrument of trust, if any, a sole trustee is authorized to execute the trusts and powers thereof.

This section applies only if and as far as a contrary intention is not expressed in the instrument of trust, if any, and shall have effect subject to the terms of that instrument and to the provisions therein contained.

This section applies only to trusts created after this Act comes into force.

44. When an authority to deal with the trust-property is given to several trustees and one of them disclaims or dies, the authority may be exercised by the continuing trustees, unless from the terms of the instrument of trust it is apparent that the authority is to be exercised by a number in excess of the number of the remaining trustees.

45. Where a decree has been made in a suit for the execution of a trust, the trustee must not exercise any of his powers except in conformity with such decree, or with the sanction of the Court by which the decree has been made, or, where an appeal against the decree is pending, of the Appellate Court.

CHAPTER V.

OF THE DISABILITIES OF TRUSTEES.

46. A trustee who has accepted the trust cannot afterwards renounce it except (a) with the permission of a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction, or (b), if the beneficiary is competent to contract, with his consent, or (c) by virtue of a special power in the instrument of trust.

47. A trustee cannot delegate his office or any of his duties either to a co-trustee or to a stranger, unless (a) the instrument of trust so provides, or (b) the delegation is in the regular course of business, or (c) the delegation is necessary, or (d) the beneficiary, being competent to contract, consents to the delegation.

Explanation.—The appointment of an attorney or proxy to do an act merely ministerial and involving no independent discretion is not a delegation within the meaning of this section.

Illustrations.

- (a) A bequeaths certain property to B and C on certain trusts to be executed by them or the survivor of them or the assigns of such survivor. B dies. C may bequeath the trust-property to D and E upon the trusts of A's will.
- (b) A is a trustee of certain property with power to sell the same. A may employ an auctioneer to effect the sale.
- (c) A bequeaths to B fifty houses let at monthly rents in trust to collect the rents and pay them to C. B may employ a proper person to collect these rents.

48. When there are more trustees than one, all must join in the execution of the trust, except where the instrument of trust otherwise provides.

49. Where a discretionary power conferred on a trustee is not exercised reasonably and in good faith, such power may be controlled by a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction.

50. In the absence of express directions to the contrary contained in the instrument of trust or of a contract entered into with the beneficiary or the Court at the time of accepting the trust, a trustee has no right to remuneration for his trouble, skill and loss of time in executing the trust.

Nothing in this section applies to any Official Trustee, Administrator General, Public Curator, or person holding a certificate of administration.

51. A trustee may not use or deal with the trust-property for his own profit or for any other purpose unconnected with the trust.

52. No trustee whose duty it is to sell trust-property, and no agent employed by such trustee for the purpose of the sale, may, directly or indirectly, buy the same or any interest therein, on his own account or as agent for a third person.

53. No trustee, and no person who has recently ceased to be a trustee, may, without the permission of a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction, buy or become mortgagee or lessee of the trust-property or any part thereof; and such permission shall not be given unless the proposed purchase, mortgage or lease is manifestly for the advantage of the beneficiary.

And no trustee whose duty it is to buy or to obtain a mortgage or lease of particular property for the beneficiary may buy it, or any part thereof, or obtain a mortgage or lease of it, or any part thereof, for himself.

54. A trustee or co-trustee whose duty it is to invest trust-money on mortgage or personal security must not invest it on a mortgage by, or on the personal security of, himself or one of his co-trustees.

CHAPTER VI.

OF THE RIGHTS AND LIABILITIES OF THE BENEFICIARY.

55. The beneficiary has, subject to the provisions of the instrument of trust, a right to the rents and profits of the trust-property.

56. The beneficiary is entitled to have the intimation of the author of the trust specifically executed to the extent of the beneficiary's interest;

and, where there is only one beneficiary and he is competent to contract, or where there are several beneficiaries and they are competent to contract and all of one mind, he or they may require the trustee to transfer the trust-property to him or them, or to such person as he or they may direct.

When property has been transferred or bequeathed for the benefit of a married woman, so that she shall not have power to deprive herself of her beneficial interest, nothing in the second clause of this section applies to such property during her marriage.

Illustrations.

(a) Certain Government securities are given to trustees

upon trust to accumulate the interest until A attains the age of 24, and then to transfer the gross amount to him. A on attaining majority may, as the person exclusively interested in the trust-property, require the trustees to transfer it immediately to him.

(b) A bequeaths Rs. 10,000 to trustees upon trust to purchase an annuity for B, who has attained his majority and is otherwise competent to contract. B may claim the Rs. 10,000.

(c) A transfers certain property to B and directs him to sell or invest it for the benefit of C, who is competent to contract. C may elect to take the property in its original character.

57. The beneficiary has a right, as against the trustee and all persons claiming under him with notice of the trust, to inspect and take copies of the instrument of trust, the documents of title relating solely to the trust-property, the accounts of the trust-property and the vouchers (if any) by which they are supported, and the cases submitted and opinions taken by the trustee for his guidance in the discharge of his duty.

58. The beneficiary, if competent to contract, may transfer his interest, but subject to the law for the time being in force as to the circumstances and extent in and to which he may dispose of such interest:

Provided that when property is transferred or bequeathed for the benefit of a married woman, so that she shall not have power to deprive herself of her beneficial interest, nothing in this section shall authorize her to transfer such interest during her marriage.

59. Where no trustees are appointed or all the trustees die, disclaim or are discharged, or where for any other reason the execution of a trust by the trustee is or becomes impracticable, the beneficiary may institute a suit for the execution of the trust, and the trust shall, so far as may be possible, be executed by the Court until the appointment of a trustee or new trustee.

60. The beneficiary has a right (subject to the provisions of the instrument of trust) that the trust-property shall be properly protected and held and administered by proper persons and by a proper number of such persons.

Explanation I.—The following are not proper persons within the meaning of this section:—

A person domiciled abroad: an alien enemy: a person having an interest inconsistent with that of the beneficiary: a person in insolvent circumstances; and, unless the personal law of the beneficiary allows otherwise, a married woman and a minor.

Explanation II.—When the administration of the trust involves the receipt and custody of money, the number of trustees should be two at least.

Illustrations.

(a) A, one of several beneficiaries, proves that B, the trustee, has improperly disposed of part of the trust-property, or that the property is in danger from B's being in insolvent circumstances, or that he is incapacitated from acting as trustee. A may obtain a receiver of the trust-property.

(b) A bequeaths certain jewels to B in trust for C. B dies during A's lifetime; then A dies. C is entitled to have the property conveyed to a trustee for him.

(c) A conveys certain property to four trustees in trust for B. Three of the trustees die. B may institute a suit to have three new trustees appointed in the place of the deceased trustees.

(d) A conveys certain property to three trustees in trust for B. All the trustees disclaim. B may institute a suit to have three trustees appointed in place of the trustees so disclaiming.

(e) A, a trustee for B, refuses to act, or goes to reside permanently out of British India, or is declared an insolvent, or compounds with his creditors, or suffers a co-trustee to commit a breach of trust. B may institute a suit to have A removed and a new trustee appointed in his room.

61. The beneficiary has a right that his trustee shall be compelled to perform any particular act of his duty as such, and restrained from committing any contemplated or probable breach of trust.

Illustrations.

(a) A contracts with B to pay him monthly Rs. 100 for the benefit of C. B writes and signs a letter declaring that he will hold in trust for C the money so to be paid. A fails to pay the money in accordance with his contract. C may compel B on a proper indemnity to allow C to sue on the contract in B's name.

(b) A is trustee of certain land, with a power to sell the same and pay the proceeds to B and C equally. A is about to make an improvident sale of the land. B may sue on behalf of himself and C for an injunction to restrain A from making the sale.

62. Where a trustee has wrongfully bought trust-property, the beneficiary has a right to have the property declared subject to the trust or retransferred by the trustee, if it remains in his hands unsold, or, if it has been bought from him by any person with notice of the trust, by such person. But in such case the beneficiary must repay the purchase-money paid by the trustee, with interest, and such other expenses (if any) as he has properly incurred in the preservation of the property; and the trustee or purchaser must (a) account for the net profits of the property, (b) be charged with an occupation-rent, if he has been in actual possession of the property, and (c) allow the beneficiary to deduct a proportionate part of the purchase-money if the property has been deteriorated by the acts or omissions of the trustee or purchaser.

Nothing in this section—

(a) impairs the rights of lessees and others who, before the institution of a suit to have the property declared subject to the trust or retransferred, have contracted in good faith with the trustee or purchaser; or

(b) entitles the beneficiary to have the property declared subject to the trust or retransferred where he, being competent to contract, has himself, without coercion or undue influence having been brought to bear on him, ratified the sale to the trustee with full knowledge of the facts of the case and of his rights as against the trustee.

63. Where trust-property comes into the hands of a third person inconsistently with the trust, the beneficiary may require him to admit formally, or may institute a suit for a declaration, that the property is comprised in the trust.

Where the trustee has disposed of trust-property and the money or other property which he has received therefor can be traced in his hands, or the hands of his legal representative or legatee, the beneficiary has, in respect thereof, rights as nearly as may be the same as his rights in respect of the original trust-property.

Illustrations.

(a) A, a trustee for B of Rs. 10,000, wrongfully invests the Rs. 10,000 in the purchase of certain land. B is entitled to the land.

(b) A, a trustee, wrongfully purchases land in his own name, partly with his own money, partly with money subject to a trust for B. B is entitled to a charge on the land for the amount of the trust-money so misemployed.

64. Nothing in section sixty-three entitles the beneficiary to any right in respect of property in the hands of—

(a) a transferee in good faith for consideration without having notice of the trust, either when the purchase-money was paid, or when the conveyance was executed, or—

(b) a transferee for consideration from such a transferee.

A judgment-creditor of the trustee attaching and purchasing trust-property is not a transferee for consideration within the meaning of this section.

Nothing in section sixty-three applies to money, currency notes and negotiable instruments in the hands of a *bona fide* holder to whom they have passed in circulation, or shall be deemed to affect the Indian Contract Act, 1872, section 108, or the liability of a person to whom a debt or charge is transferred.

65. Where a trustee wrongfully sells or otherwise transfers trust-property and afterwards himself becomes the owner of the property, the property again becomes subject to the trust, notwithstanding any want of notice on the part of intervening transferees in good faith for consideration.

66. Where the trustee wrongfully mingles the trust-property with his own, the beneficiary is entitled to a charge on the whole fund for the amount due to him.

67. If a partner, being a trustee, wrongfully employs trust-property in the business or on the account of the partnership, no other partner is liable therefor in his personal capacity to the beneficiaries, unless he had notice of the breach of trust.

The partners having such notice are jointly and severally liable for the breach of trust.

Illustrations.

(a) A and B are partners. A dies, having bequeathed all his property to B in trust for Z, and appointed B his sole executor. B, instead of winding-up the affairs of the partnership, retains all the assets in the business. Z may compel him, as partner, to account for so much of the profits as are derived from A's share of the capital. B is also answerable to Z for the improper employment of A's assets.

(b) A, a trader, bequeaths his property to B in trust for C, appoints B his sole executor, and dies. B enters into partnership with X and Y in the same trade, and employs A's assets in the partnership-business. B gives an indemnity to X and Y against the claims of C. Here X and Y are jointly liable with B to C as having knowingly become parties to the breach of trust committed by B.

68. Where one of several beneficiaries—

(a) joins in committing a breach of trust, or

(b) knowingly obtains any advantage therefrom, without the consent of the other beneficiaries, or

(c) becomes aware of a breach of trust committed or intended to be committed, and either actually conceals it, or does not within a reasonable time take proper steps to protect the interests of the other beneficiaries, or

(d) has deceived the trustee and thereby induced him to commit a breach of trust,

the other beneficiaries are entitled to have all his beneficial interest impounded as against him and all who claim under him (otherwise than as transferees for consideration without notice of the breach) until the loss caused by the breach has been compensated.

When property has been transferred or bequeathed for the benefit of a married woman, so that she shall not have power to deprive herself of her beneficial interest, nothing in this section applies to such property during her marriage.

69. Every person to whom a beneficiary transfers his interest has the rights and liabilities of beneficiary's transferee. Rights and liabilities of beneficiary's transferee. in respect of such interest at the date of the transfer.

CHAPTER VII.

OF VACATING THE OFFICE OF TRUSTEE.

70. The office of a trustee is vacated by his death or by his discharge from his office. Office how vacated.

71. A trustee may be discharged from his office only as follows:—

- (a) by the extinction of the trust;
- (b) by the completion of his duties under the trust;
- (c) by such means as may be prescribed by the instrument of trust;
- (d) by appointment under this Act of a new trustee in his place;
- (e) by consent of himself and the beneficiary, or, where there are more beneficiaries than one, all the beneficiaries being competent to contract, or
- (f) by the Court to which a petition for his discharge is presented under this Act.

72. Notwithstanding the provisions of section eleven, every trustee may be discharged from trust. apply by petition to a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction to be discharged from his office; and if the Court finds that there is sufficient reason for such discharge, it may discharge him accordingly, and direct his costs to be paid out of the trust-property. But where there is no such reason, the Court shall not discharge him, unless a proper person can be found to take his place.

73. Whenever any person appointed a trustee disclaims, or any trustee, either original or substituted, dies, or is for a continuous period of six months absent from British India, or leaves British India for the purpose of residing abroad, or is declared an insolvent, or desires to be discharged from the trust, or refuses or becomes, in the opinion of a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction, unfit or personally incapable to act in the trust, or accepts an inconsistent trust, a new trustee may be appointed in his place by—

- (a) the person nominated for that purpose by the instrument of trust (if any), or
- (b) if there be no such person, or no such person able and willing to act, the author of the trust if he be alive and competent to contract, or the surviving or continuing trustees or trustee for the

time being, or legal representative of the last surviving and continuing trustee, or (with the consent of the Court) the retiring trustees, if they all retire simultaneously, or (with the like consent) the last retiring trustee.

Every such appointment shall be by writing under the hand of the person making it.

On an appointment of a new trustee the number of trustees may be increased.

The Official Trustee may, with his consent and by the order of the Court, be appointed under this section, in any case in which only one trustee is to be appointed and such trustee is to be the sole trustee.

The provisions of this section relative to a trustee who is dead include the case of a person nominated trustee in a will but dying before the testator, and those relative to a continuing trustee include a refusing or retiring trustee if willing to act in the execution of the power.

74. Whenever any such vacancy or disqualification occurs and it is found impracticable to appoint a new trustee under section seventy-three, the beneficiary may, without instituting a suit, apply by petition to a principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction for the appointment of a trustee or a new trustee, and the Court may appoint a trustee or a new trustee accordingly.

In appointing new trustees, the Court shall have regard (a) to the wishes of the author of the trust as expressed in or to be inferred from the instrument of trust; (b) to the wishes of the person, if any, empowered to appoint new trustees; (c) to the question whether the appointment will promote or impede the execution of the trust, and (d) where there are more beneficiaries than one, to the interests of all such beneficiaries.

75. Whenever any new trustee is appointed under section seventy-three or section seventy-four, all the trust-property for the time being vested in the surviving or continuing trustees or trustee, or in the legal representative of any trustee, shall become vested in such new trustee, either solely or jointly with the surviving or continuing trustees or trustee as the case may require.

Every new trustee so appointed, and every trustee appointed by a Court either before or after the passing of this Act, shall have the same powers, authorities and discretions, and shall in all respects act, as if he had been originally nominated a trustee by the author of the trust.

76. On the death or discharge of one of several co-trustees, the trust survives and the trust-property passes to the others, unless the instrument of trust expressly declares otherwise.

CHAPTER VIII.

OF THE EXTINCTION OF TRUSTS.

77. A trust is extinguished—

- (a) when its purpose is completely fulfilled; or
- (b) when its purpose becomes unlawful; or

(c) when the fulfilment of its purpose becomes impossible by destruction of the trust-property or otherwise; or

(d) when the trust, being revocable, is expressly revoked.

78. A trust created by will may be revoked at the pleasure of the testator.

A trust otherwise created can be revoked only—

(a) where all the beneficiaries are competent to contract—by their consent;

(b) where the trust has been declared by a non-testamentary instrument or by word of mouth—in exercise of a power of revocation expressly reserved to the author of the trust; or

(c) where the trust is for the payment of the debts of the author of the trust, and has not been communicated to the creditors—at the pleasure of the author of the trust.

Illustration.

A conveys property to B in trust to sell the same and pay out of the proceeds the claims of A's creditors. A reserves no power of revocation. If no communication has been made to the creditors, A may revoke the trust. But if the creditors are parties to the arrangement, the trust cannot be revoked without their consent.

79. No trust can be revoked by the author of the trust so as to defeat or prejudice what the trustees may have duly done in execution of the trust.

CHAPTER IX.

OF CERTAIN OBLIGATIONS IN THE NATURE OF TRUSTS.

80. An obligation in the nature of a trust is created in the following cases.

81. Where the owner of property transfers or bequeaths it and it cannot be inferred consistently with the attendant circumstances that he intended to dispose of the beneficial interest therein, the transferee or legatee must hold such property for the benefit of the owner or his legal representative.

Illustrations.

(a) A conveys land to B without consideration and declares no trust of any part. It cannot, consistently with the circumstances under which the transfer is made, be inferred that A intended to transfer the beneficial interest in the land. B holds the land for the benefit of A.

(b) A conveys to B two fields, Y and Z, and declares a trust of Y, but says nothing about Z. It cannot, consistently with the circumstances under which the transfer is made, be inferred that A intended to transfer the beneficial interest in Z. B holds Z for the benefit of A.

(c) A transfers certain stock belonging to him into the joint names of himself and B. It cannot, consistently with the circumstances under which the transfer is made, be inferred that A intended to transfer the beneficial interest in the stock during his life. A and B hold the stock for the benefit of A during his life.

(d) A makes a gift of certain land to his wife B. She takes the beneficial interest in the land free from any trust in favour of A, for it may be inferred from the circumstances that the gift was for B's benefit.

82. Where property is transferred to one person

Transfer to one for consideration paid or provided by another person, and it appears that such other person did not intend to pay or provide such

consideration for the benefit of the transferee, the transferee must hold the property for the benefit of the person paying or providing the consideration.

Nothing in this section shall be deemed to affect the Code of Civil Procedure, section 317, or Act No. XI of 1859 (to improve the law relating to sales of land for arrears of revenue in the Lower Provinces under the Bengal Presidency), section 36.

83. Where a trust is incapable of being executed, or where the trust is completely executed without exhausting the trust-property, the trustee, in the absence of a direction to the contrary, must hold the trust-property, or so much thereof as is unexhausted, for the benefit of the author of the trust or his legal representative.

Illustrations.

(a) A conveys certain land to B—

“upon trust,” and no trust is declared; or

“upon trust to be hereafter declared,” and no such declaration is ever made; or

upon trusts that are too vague to be executed; or

upon trusts that become incapable of taking effect; or

“in trust for C,” and C renounces his interest under the trust.

In each of these cases B holds the land for the benefit of A.

(b) A transfers Rs. 10,000 in the four per cents. to B, in trust to pay the interest annually accruing due to C for her life. A dies. Then C dies. B holds the fund for the benefit of A's legal representative.

(c) A conveys land to B upon trust to sell it and apply one moiety of the proceeds for certain charitable purposes, and the other for the maintenance of the worship of an idol. B sells the land, but the charitable purposes wholly fail, and the maintenance of the worship does not exhaust the second moiety of the proceeds. B holds the first moiety and the part unapplied of the second moiety for the benefit of A or his legal representative.

(d) A bequeaths Rs. 10,000 to B, to be laid out in buying land to be conveyed for purposes which either wholly or partially fail to take effect. B holds for the benefit of A's legal representative the undisposed of interest in the money or land if purchased.

84. Where the owner of property transfers it for an illegal purpose and such purpose is not carried into execution, or the transferor is not as guilty as the transferee, or the effect of permitting the transferee to retain the property might be to defeat the provisions of any law, the transferee must hold the property for the benefit of the transferor.

85. Where a testator bequeaths certain property upon trust and the purpose of the trust appears on the face of the will to be unlawful, or during the testator's lifetime the legatee agrees with him to apply the property for an unlawful purpose, the legatee must hold the property for the benefit of the testator's legal representative.

Where property is bequeathed and the revocation of the bequest is prevented by coercion, the legatee must hold the property for the benefit of the testator's legal representative.

86. Where property is transferred in pursuance of a contract which is liable to rescission or induced by fraud or mistake, the transferee must, on receiving